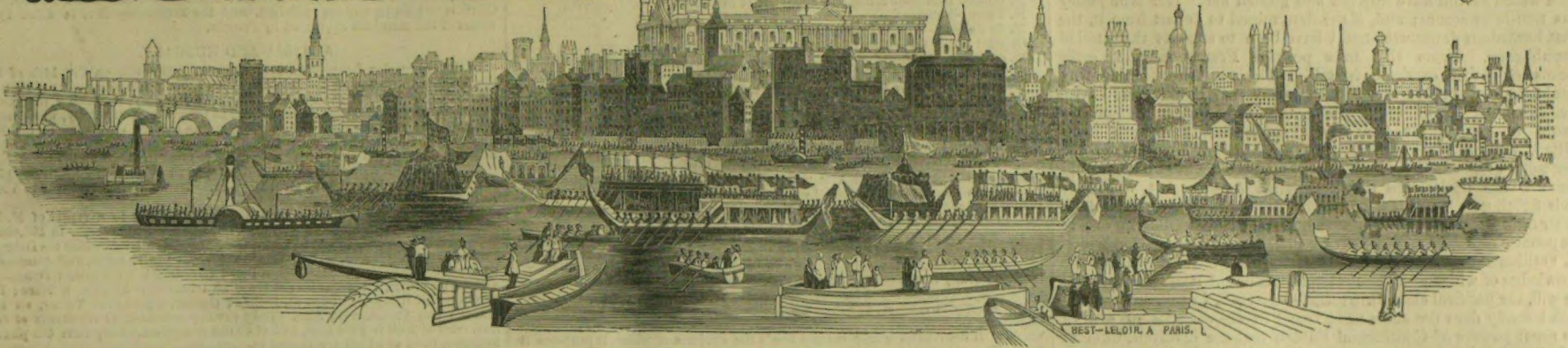


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 375.—VOL. XIV.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1849.

[SIXPENCE.]

CONTINENTAL ANTAGONISMS.

To form an accurate idea of the progress of events in Continental Europe, the student of contemporary history should look upon the various revolutions now operating—not as many but as one. The movement of our time, multiform as its manifestations may appear, is but the action of one internal force; and the results only differ in different countries because the resistance within them happens to be greater or less. It is a melancholy fact that constitutional freedom was never yet peaceably acquired in any country. All the nations that are in the enjoyment of free institutions have, at one time or another, gone through the fiery ordeal of violent revolution to acquire them; and all those nations that are yet in the throes of revolution have not only to blame the despotism and misgovernment of past ages, but their own ignorance of the liberty they desire, and of the true bases on which it should be founded, for the evils and the sufferings which they at present endure. The only states of Europe which are at this moment undisturbed are such free states as have gone through the probationary period, and have the good sense not to risk the real and tangible benefits which they have thereby acquired in search of impossible perfection; and those ultra-despotic states in which the time is not ripe for the effort.

In the first class are Great Britain, Belgium, Holland, and Sweden; in the second is Russia. Revolution has been rendered unnecessary in the first-mentioned by their past sacrifices, and by the timely concession of their rulers to all the reasonable and just demands of the intelligent people; while, in the case of the second, the masses are in the very infancy of their political education, and have neither the strength nor the knowledge for any vigorous or wise effort to procure for themselves the privileges of responsible government. The first have passed through the troublous period of their history; the second has that period yet before it. All the

rest of Europe is involved more or less actively in the struggle of principles, represented by constitutionalism on the one side, and by despotism on the other. We see, wherever we turn, that these are the great, if not the only, combatants. In Italy the conflict is between the many, who desire—though they scarcely understand—true liberty; and the governing few, who deny it. In France the conflict is in reality between those who enjoy as much liberty as their own national character will allow either to themselves or to others; and the tyranny of a mob which is either ignorant or half-informed, and which in both cases is unruly and unreasonable, and seeks to establish a despotism more horrible than that which any autocrat would dare to practise. In Hungary the struggle is one of races as well as of principles; more aristocratic, in its outward form, than that which is taking place elsewhere; but, in its inner spirit, identical with it. In Germany we see the same battle, though the circumstances differ. Many of the smaller German States were in the enjoyment of as much true liberty as could be desired by any people, however sober and intelligent; but they rushed into the hot career of revolution at the command of that spirit of nationality which it has hitherto been the policy of the despotic States to destroy, and which the Prussian Monarch—not for love of the cause, but with designs of self-aggrandisement—undertook to foster. Germany, existing as an aggregate of two large, powerful, and despotic States, and several weak, small, and free Governments, was, in reality, “a thing of shreds and patches,” at war with itself, and in antagonism no less with the generous aspirations of its young blood, than with the cooler judgment of its more experienced and sagacious citizens. Whatever might be the individual liberty of the smaller States, Germany, as a whole, existed in Europe as an absolutist Power. If it were not absolutist, it was nothing in the European Commonwealth; so that, free as portions of it might be considered in their internal relations, it existed, externally, in a form that was obnoxious to the best among its own

people, and to the other States of Europe which took the lead in material, as well as in moral and intellectual progress.

The present position of affairs in all these countries is anything but encouraging to the hope that the great upheaving of the social elements that has occurred will speedily or peaceably subside. The passions excited are so fierce that we can scarcely expect a disentanglement of the European knot until the various parties to the quarrel have learned, by a new and more bitter experience than they have yet acquired, how impotent is physical violence to settle any questions that have been raised by the intellect. On the one hand is France, pursuing a policy, of which the end, if not the object, is a European war; and on the other is Russia, who, having committed a grievous wrong in the partition of Poland, dares not keep herself to herself lest her ill-gotten possessions should slip from her grasp. Germany, Hungary, and Italy, if left to themselves, might severally find the means of arranging their affairs, and of establishing themselves as constitutional states; but neither revolutionized France nor unrevolutionized Russia can keep out of the quarrel. France, in pursuance of a policy of which one of the objects is “influence” in Italy, and in obedience to an abominable thirst for military supremacy and renown, which Napoleon made a passion with a vain and excitable people, among whom, generally, the men are idle and the women industrious, must needs thrust herself into the Italian difficulty. The result in that portion of Europe is “confusion worse confounded.” Russia, that cannot afford to be honest in the matter of Poland, has been but too happy to aid the tottering empire of Austria in the subjugation of the Hungarians, whose independence must lead, as a necessary consequence, to that of the Poles. Hence, also, have occurred complication upon complication, and evil upon evil. The defeat of the Hungarians will be not merely the conquest of that people, and the postponement to a future day of a consummation that must eventually be brought about, but the restoration for a time (though for



THE SIKH CAVALRY DELIVERING UP THEIR ARMS AT RAWUL PINDEE, MARCH 14, 1849.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

a time only) of the now all but defunct absolutism of Germany and Italy.

The accredited representatives of the warring principles of modern Europe are thus seen to be Russia and France. Russia, in the important movement which she has made to the assistance of Austria, has acted in strict conformity with her history, her present condition, and her principles. France, on the contrary, in the movement she has made in Italy, has departed from every principle which should have inspired and guided her. Her true policy was non-interference; and, if she determined to depart from it, the least hazardous departure would have been to support the Italian Republicans. From that false position France must by some means or other extricate herself. The most honourable way would be to order the French army at Paolo and Civita Vecchia back again to Toulon: the next most honourable would be to confess tacitly the error that has been committed, and to place the services of Marshal Oudinot at the command of the Italian Constitutionalists. This, it is true, would amount to a declaration of war against Austria; but, if France finds fighting a social as well as a political necessity, she must either fight upon the side of which her name is the synonym, or pay the penalty of a new revolution or a civil war. This is a fact which M. Odillon Barrot and Louis Napoleon should have known, and the knowledge of which should have kept them out of Italy. Look where we will, the political clouds are thunder-charged. Capacity combined with honesty does not seem to be found in the councils of any of the great powers of Continental Europe that are involved, directly or indirectly, in the struggle. Russia and Austria, it is true, pursue a straightforward and intelligible course. They wish to preserve what they have got. But, if the capacity of Russia be granted, it must be at the expense of her honesty; and if the honesty of Austria be conceded, it must be admitted that capacity is singularly wanting in her councils. But France and Prussia pursue a tortuous policy, and are governed by motives of ambition which do not sway the other two powers. They do not simply wish to retain what they have got, but to grasp what they have not got; and their selfishness is, to our thinking, far more atrocious than any that has been exhibited or betrayed by Russia. Had Austria not been weakened and deprived of support by the selfish intrigues and personal ambition of the King of Prussia, the aid of Russia might not have been necessary to save her from disruption; and, had France left the Romans to imitate a French example, and choose freely their own form of Government, the Italian difficulty would not have been exasperated to such a degree as to force Austria, threatened on all sides, into the dangerous embraces of her too-powerful ally at St. Petersburg. Austria is indeed in a hapless condition. She seems destined to bear the brunt of all the battles of our time. If she be not blotted out of the map of Europe, it will be solely owing to the intervention of the Emperor Nicholas. Menaced by the King of Prussia, by the party of United Germany, and by the Republicans, on one side; by the Hungarians on another; and by the Italians, on a third, the Emperor is surrounded with enemies, and is reduced to the luckless extremity of relying upon a friend, whose friendship may be ultimately as fatal as the worst malice of his enemies.

But whatever may be the fate of the Austrian Empire, and whatever may be the result of the partial war—too likely to become general—that is now devastating the fairest portions of Europe, we cannot believe that the ultimate issue will be the re-establishment of Absolutism in any country where it has been challenged or combated by recent events. Such governments as those which existed in Prussia and Austria before the Revolutions of 1848, and as that which exists in Russia at the present moment, are not compatible with the civilization to which Europe has attained. It may be long before the right system be established, safe from the tyranny of Kings, and from the worse tyranny of ignorant mobs; but we will not permit ourselves to doubt, that, sooner or later, though at the price of tears and blood, continental Europe will attain the rational freedom which makes nations great, and which, combined with virtue and religion, can alone make them happy.

SURRENDER OF THE SIKHS.

We have been favoured by Ensign Byers, of the 70th Regiment of Native Infantry, with Gen. Sir R. W. Gilbert, beyond the Jhelum, with the accompanying Sketch of one of the most interesting scenes of which he has been a witness during the recent campaign. It represents the Goorgerahs (Avtible's Dragoons) delivering up their arms to Gen. Sir R. W. Gilbert, on the 14th of March, at Rawul Pindee. It appears that Rajah Shere Sing made over his guns to the British on the 11th, and on the two subsequent days large bodies of his infantry came in, and laid down their arms; but the 14th was the day agreed on for the Goorgerahs to come in and make their submission; and, accordingly, the British troops moved up to Rawul Pindee on the above morning.

A deep nullah separated the two forces, and this place was selected as the spot on which the surrender should be made; the 70th Regiment, Native Infantry, being ordered down to the banks of the nullah to receive charge of the arms. Shere Sing rode at the head of his men, and took up his position close to Captain Nicolson, where he remained during the greater part of the day.

In the Sketch are represented the Sikh cavalry pouring down through the narrow road, and throwing down their arms, as they successively pass the heap in the foreground. On the opposite bank, General Sir R. W. Gilbert, attended by an orderly trooper of irregular cavalry, is watching the Sikhs as they pass. In the left-hand corner of the Sketch is Captain Nicolson, with Shere Sing, one of his followers, and an officer of the 14th Dragoons. The right foreground shows an officer of irregular cavalry, one of the 60th Rifles, and three of our Infantry officers. The sentries are sepoy of the 70th Regiment, Native Infantry.

The whole was a very impressive scene, relieved by the variety of the uniforms: the Goorgerahs in their red coats, with yellow facings, white turbans, and trousers; the enveloping white silk costume of Shere Sing; the green and silver, and silver helmets with red horsehair plumes, of the irregular cavalry; the red and blue, and the white wadded helmets, of the other infantry officers; the red and blue of the Sepoys; and the green of the Rifles officer—formed an imposing picture of this formal step to the annexation of the Punjab to the British dominions in India.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

REVIEW OF THE SECOND LIFE GUARDS IN WINDSOR PARK.—The Marquis of Londonderry, K.G., Colonel of the Second Life Guards, reviewed that fine regiment in Windsor Park on Monday, in the presence of a very numerous staff of officers, and many other personages of distinction. The noble Marquis was attired in his full uniform, and rode a magnificent charger. Lady Londonderry came on to the ground in an open carriage, drawn by four grey horses, and preceded by outriders. Among the leading personages present were the Marquis of Stafford, Viscount and Viscountess Seaham, Viscount and Viscountess Nevill, Lord Adolphus Vane, Lord John Manners, Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, &c. After the review the officers of the regiment had the honour of entertaining the Marchioness of Londonderry and a circle of about fifty ladies and gentlemen at a superb *déjeuner*, which was served in the Cavalry Barracks at Spittal. Among the regimental plate with which the table was decorated was a superb tankard, of very elegant design, presented to the corps by Captain Blane on his retirement, a short time since. In the evening, after the Eton regatta, a ball took place in the barracks, which was honoured with the presence of Lady Londonderry and several other distinguished personages.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.—The United States Government are taking steps to prosecute the search after Sir John Franklin's expedition. Captain Wilkes, who is to have the command of one of the ships, says that time would not permit, this winter, to make any effort in the Arctic Ocean in search of Sir John Franklin, other than for the Navy Department to despatch a smaller vessel from the western coast of America to notify to the whale ships that they should be on the look-out. He adds, that "what is now required is a speedy exploration of the Wellington Channel. The distance from our (the American) shores is not greater than that to Europe, and the voyage may be readily performed in forty-five days. If vessels were now fitted, they would be in time for the season, which opens about the middle of July, and would be able to explore this channel thoroughly to its furthest extent or navigable point, and, if not to succour, they will ascertain whether Sir John Franklin had taken that route, and return safely back before winter with tidings."

At the festival of the United Law Clerks' Society, to be held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Tuesday, the 19th instant, the Lord Chief Baron has consented to preside.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The new Legislative Assembly assumed its complete organization on Saturday last, when M. Dupin, sen. (the friend of the ex-King Louis Philippe), who has been elected to the chair of the Assembly, entered for the first time on his duties as President; and the secretaries and other officers of the Chamber also replaced those who had discharged their functions provisionally. In the course of the sitting, on the same day, M. O. Barrot read the following as the list of the reconstructed ministry:

M. Odillon Barrot—Justice and President of the Council.
M. Passy—Finances.
M. de Falloux—Public Instruction.
General Rullières—War.
M. de Tracy—Marine.
M. Lacrosse—Public Works.
The above, it will be seen, were all members of the late Cabinet. The new Ministers are:—
M. Dufaure—Interior (in the place of M. Léon Faucher).
M. de Tocqueville—Foreign Affairs (in the place of M. Drouyn de l'Huys).
M. Lanjuinais—Agriculture and Commerce (in place of M. Buffet).
The political alteration thus effected is inconsiderable.

In the early part of the week it was expected that the message of the President of the Republic to the new Legislative Chamber would be delivered on Wednesday at the farthest, and much disappointment was generally expressed, both in and out of the Chamber, at the delay. The necessity, however, of carefully weighing every sentence in this important state paper, which rivals in length the messages of the Presidents of the United States to Congress, and the anxiety which Louis Napoleon, whose own production it is generally understood to be, naturally felt to deliver on this important occasion, so novel and unprecedented, both for himself and for France, as statesmanlike a document as possible—those two causes combined to retard its publication until Thursday. The message is a *résumé* of the past, present, and future administration of the French Republic. It distributes under several heads the subjects of which it proposes to treat. These are Finance; Military Establishments, including the National Guard and Navy; Agriculture, Industry, and Commerce; Public Works; and Foreign Affairs. Its general tone and character is pacific and re-assuring, but its extreme length precludes our giving more than an extract respecting the all-absorbing question of the moment—Italy.

"For two years we have been accustomed to see the Holy See occupied by a Pontiff who took the lead in useful reforms, and whose name reached, in hymns of gratitude, from one end of Italy to the other, was the very symbol of liberty, and the guardian of Italian aspirations. All at once we learnt with amazement that the Sovereign in question, but yesterday the idol of his people, had been compelled to fly in disguise from his capital.

"Accordingly, the act of aggression which forced Pius IX. to quit Rome, seemed, in the eyes of Europe, to be rather the work of a conspiracy than the spontaneous movement of his subjects, who could not surely have passed in a moment from sentiments of the liveliest enthusiasm to deeds of the basest ingratitude. The Catholic Powers sent Ministers to Gaëta to watch over the grave interests of the Papacy. It was necessary that France, too, should be represented there. She listened to all that was said, without, however, fettering her ultimate actions; but, after the defeat of Novara, the negotiations assumed a more definite aspect. Austria, in concert with Naples, and at the invitation of his Holiness, notified to the French Government that it must choose its course, for that the Powers had resolved to march on Rome, for the purpose of re-establishing, purely and simply, the authority of the Pope.

"Forced to an explanation, there are but three courses to choose from. First, to resist by force of arms all attempts at intervention by others; but that course would have involved a rupture with all Catholic Europeans, merely for the sake of the Roman Republic, which, by the way, we had never recognised.

"Second, to allow the three coalesced Powers to restore the Papal authority without any restriction, and according to their good notion or good pleasure. Or, lastly, to exercise for ourselves a direct and independent action.

"The Government of the Republic preferred the last course."
The service for the repose of the soul of the Empress Josephine, in the Church of Rueil, was celebrated on Monday, as in former years. The village was filled at an early hour by people flowing in every minute from Paris and all the surrounding country. The church was soon completely crowded. In the nave were ranged the National Guard of Rueil, and a battalion of the 2d Regiment of the Line; and in the two side aisles the bands of the two corps played alternately pieces of sacred music appropriate to the occasion. In the choir and the chapels at each side of it were a number of persons known for their attachment to the deceased, the Emperor Napoleon, and their families. Among them were the Orderly Officers of the President of the Republic; the son of General Lepic, of the Old Guard; M. Laity, author of the pamphlet condemned by the Chamber of Peers; Dr. Conneau, the companion in exile of Louis Napoleon; the Prefect of the Seine-et-Oise; many old soldiers of the Empire, and persons who had been in the households of the Emperor and Empress, and Queen Hortense; and, with them, Archibault, who received the last sigh of the Emperor at St. Helena. The President of the Republic was expected, but was prevented from attending by affairs of state; but he sent several of his carriages. He, however, had gone on the preceding evening to pray at the tomb of the Empress.

The great heat of the weather at the close of the last and the commencement of the present week occasioned a considerable increase of mortality among the cholera patients in Paris. The number of persons attacked reached on Sunday to a greater amount than had been known since the commencement of the malady. On that day there were 208 new cases in the hospitals, and 119 deaths. The Hôtel Dieu alone received 94 on that and the two preceding days, and the Salpêtrière 44; and in the neighbourhood of Paris, and particularly at the Batignolles, the malady was very severe. In the military hospitals also an augmentation was perceptible, but not in the same proportion as in the civil ones. The whole number of patients in the various hospitals since the commencement of the epidemic exceed 7000.

M. Proudhon was arrested in Paris on Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock, by a police agent, immediately on his alighting at the station by the Northern Railway from Belgium.

M. Lesseps, who had been sent to Rome to negotiate a peaceable solution of the difficult question of the French intervention in the affairs of the Romans, returned to Paris on Wednesday. An ill-natured rumour had preceded him of his having become deranged while in the Eternal City, but it has proved to be totally unfounded. When he left, on the 1st inst., the French troops had not recommenced hostilities.

The great national exposition of the products of French manufacture was opened on Monday.

ITALIAN STATES.

PIEDMONT.—A Royal decree was published on the 2d instant, granting a full and entire amnesty for all political offences committed in the island of Sardinia up to that day.

VENICE.—The Austrians press their siege of Venice closer and closer every day, and keep up a ceaseless bombardment. It is feared it cannot hold out. Radetzki directs the operations in person.

ROME.—Up to the 1st inst. matters remained in *status quo*. The French troops, now amounting to 30,000 men of all arms, have moved to a higher and healthier locality. Hostilities were to be recommenced by General Oudinot, if the second French negotiator, who had arrived, should prove as unsuccessful as M. Lesseps.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

Hostilities have been for the last ten or twelve days suspended, but the fortress of Fredericia continues to be still invested by the Holstein troops, who pour in shot and shell from time to time, to the great destruction of life and property.

The latest accounts, *via* Hamburg, state that the Danish blockade is now rigidly enforced. Negotiations were evidently proceeding, but nothing was known as to the probable termination of hostilities. In the meantime the hostile armies were actively engaged in obtaining reinforcements, and so disposing their troops as to be prepared for immediate battle.

GERMAN STATES.

FRANKFORT.—The President and officials of the National Assembly of Frankfort have published an invitation to the members of the Assembly to meet at Stuttgart on the 4th.

BADEN AND BAVARIA.—Within the last week engagements have taken place at Furth, Hambrecht, and other places, between the troops of the Central Government and those of the Provisional Government of Baden. In all these affairs the former were successful.

The insurrectionary Governments of the Palatinate of Bavaria and Baden have nominated a central committee, consisting of three persons, for the direction of the military, financial, and political affairs of the two countries.

PRUSSIA.

The Plenipotentiaries of Prussia, Hanover, and Saxony, who have for some time past been engaged at Berlin in framing a Constitution for the German Empire, to supersede that which had been enacted by the Frankfort Constituent Assembly, have published the draft of the Constitution upon which they have agreed.

The document is of great length. It is merely styled "Project of a Constitution," as drawn up by the Governments of Prussia, Saxony, and Hanover, and is offered to the people for the purpose of being examined and adopted (subject to alterations) by the new National Assembly, which is to be convoked at the commencement of August. Neither Austria nor Bavaria have as yet given in their adhesion; but hopes are entertained that Bavaria will join Prussia, and the position which that country would occupy in the union, according to the project of the Constitution, is accordingly reserved. The following are some of the most important paragraphs of the new Constitution:—

"The relative position of Austria and the new German Empire are to be subsequently arranged."

"At the head of the new Empire shall be a Curator, or Lieutenant of the Empire, assisted by a College of Princes. The dignity of *Reichsvoestand* is inseparable from the house of Hohenzollern (Prussia)."

"A College of Princes, Prussia included, is composed of six votes, of which Prussia and Bavaria each form one, while the other four are divided among the collective votes."

"In case the *Reichsvoestand* is unable to act, his part, the King of Bavaria shall take his place."

"The College of Princes passes its decrees by absolute majority. The *Reichsvoestand* has the absolute veto. Every German who is irreproachable and independent is an elector at the age of twenty-five. The electors are divided into three classes, as in the order of the communal election of the Rhenish provinces."

In many respects the constitution is similar to that of Frankfort.

The King of Saxony has announced his acceptance of this Federal Constitution, reserving to the Chambers the right of confirming it; his Majesty having, it was understood, been induced to join the Confederation on condition of receiving active aid from Prussia in suppressing the rebellion in the Palatinate, as it did in Dresden.

The Governments of Prussia, Saxony, and Hanover have also established a Provisional Court of the Confederation for the judicial decision of all questions that may arise before the final settlement of the Constitution between the Powers who are parties to it. This High Court of Arbitration is to consist of Imperial Judges, of whom Prussia appoints three, Saxony two, and Hanover two. The Court is to hold its sittings at Erfurt, and the Presidency is to be filled by the oldest of the members appointed by Prussia.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

In the Hungarian Republican Parliament at Debreczin, on the 14th of May, the Speaker intimated to the house that M. Ludvig Kossuth, having been appointed to the office of the First Magistrate of Hungary, was ready to take the necessary oaths. Ludvig Kossuth, then, as Governor of Hungary, was sworn to maintain the independence of the nation, and to enforce obedience to the laws. The several Ministers afterwards took the oaths of allegiance. Every preparation that caution can suggest is being made to meet the Russian invasion.

In the Imperial Army Baron Welden is replaced as commander-in-chief of the Austrian army in Hungary by Gen. Haynau. Baron Welden returns to Vienna as Governor.

The Magyar army is a very effective one. According to a report of M. Mesaros (late Minister of War), it amounts, including the free corps, to 396,000 organised troops. To these will be added the 50,000 fresh levies which the Debreczin Parliament lately voted. These troops are divided in 11 corps, and commanded by the following Generals:—Bem, a Pole; Georgey, a Hungarian; Damiantsch, a Croat; Perczel, a Hungarian; Guyon, an Irishman; Klapka, a Raze; Danenberg, an Hungarian from St. Mikoliz; Gaspar, a Slowake; Vetter, an Hungarian; and Aulich, a German. Their cavalry consist of 27 regiments of regulars, each of 2000 to 2400 men, and of 40,000 irregulars. They have 408 pieces of artillery, most of which are 12 and 18-pounders.

Some engagements of a minor character had taken place with the Russians and Austrians, in which the Hungarians are reported to have had the advantage.

UNITED STATES.

Accounts to the 22nd ult. from New York have been received during the week. They contain no further intelligence of any interest relative to the late disastrous riot at the Astor-place Opera House. Mr. Macready has arrived by the steamer *Hibernia*, which brought the mails. Previously to his departure from Boston he gave 1000 dollars to be distributed amongst the families whose members fell in the riot.

The fine commercial city of New Orleans is threatened with almost entire destruction by the overflowing of the river. When the last despatches left (on the 13th ult.) the waters had burst the levee or raised dyke which protects it from the inundations of the Mississippi, the inhabitants were fast leaving, and the greater part of the city was submerged.

The port of Saint Louis, the capital of the south-west, has fared almost, if not altogether, as disastrously, but from a different element. On the 16th ult. a fire broke out, which continued its ravages until 25 steamers and 418 houses were burned, and property destroyed to the amount of 6,000,000 dollars.

The steamer *Empire* was sunk by collision, on the Hudson river, about 80 miles above New York, on the 17th ult. Twenty lives were lost.

The cholera still rages in different parts of the Union. General Worth has fallen a victim to its ravages.

CANADA.

Tranquillity is undisturbed in Canada: the different parties seem determined to let matters remain as they are until further advices are received from the mother country.

WEST INDIES.

Intelligence to the 8th of May has reached us from Jamaica. Political affairs remained unaltered, and trade was exceedingly dull.

The weather at Antigua had been very dry, and the agriculture, in consequence, had suffered severely, the next crop being to some extent in danger. There had, however, been a favourable change during the preceding ten days.

Political affairs at Demerara continued in abeyance. The Combined Court had been again adjourned *sine die*, by Mr. Barkly, after another warm contest. The weather was favourable, and the markets were all more or less dull.

At Grenada rain had in some districts retarded the sugar-making; but generally the weather was very favourable, the canes yielding well both in quality and quantity.

At St. Vincent and Dominica retrenchment in the local expenditure was to be effected by a reduction of salaries.

The advices from Port-au-Prince represent affairs in the island of Hayti to be very bad. Former reports as to the feeling of Souloque towards the white population are confirmed, and the prospect of his overthrow was looked forward to with great anxiety.

The *Royal Gazette* of Dumerara states, on the authority of the Governor of Venezuela, that an important discovery of mines of gold had been made in the district of Uputa, near the river Unare, in the province of Guiana. The exact spot is said to be in the mountains near to the Cayenne river, which intersects a portion of British Guiana.

In all the West India islands, the sugar crops showed an increase of production over that of last year.

INDIA.

Advices anticipatory of the Overland Mail were received in town on Monday. The dates are, Bombay, May 1; Calcutta, April 19. The intelligence thus brought is not of any particular interest.

Her Highness Rane Chunda, mother of Dhuleep Singh, ex-Maharajah of Lahore, has effected her escape from the fortress of Chunar. By the last accounts a court of inquiry was sitting at Benares to investigate the affair, and it was hoped some clue would be found to the Rane's place of retreat.

Sir C. Napier sailed from Suez for Calcutta on the 12th of April—the news of the pacification of the Punjab, which reached him on his way, having determined him in proceeding direct to the seat of the Supreme Government, instead of visiting Bombay, and moving thence upwards to the frontier. The appointment of the "Hero of Meenac" as Commander-in-Chief in India has proved extremely popular amongst military men: it is felt that he has the will to introduce reforms, and that he comes out under circumstances which afford him abundant power to effect them.

As to the arrangements for the future Government of the Punjab, it was generally understood that there was to be no increase of the regular army, but that ten regiments of Irregulars, half cavalry and half infantry, were to be raised—a part of the men were to be Sikhs who had never borne arms against us, and the remainder Mussulmans and Poorbeas.

The civil administration of the country is to be entrusted to a Board of Administration, consisting of a President, two members, and a secretary, five commissioners, together with several deputy and assistant commissioners. The total cost for salaries of the "Board," the "Commissioners," their "Deputies" and "Assistants," is estimated at between £6000 and £7000 per month.

Major-General Gilbert was at Attock on the 6th of April, and arrived at Rawul Pindee, with Brigadier Campbell, on the 10th. This latter place, it is said, promises to be "one of the finest stations in India. It is 2500 feet above the level of the sea, and everything is abundant and cheap. The General resumed his march for Lahore on the 11th, and was expected at Jhelum on the 16th, the Brigadier remaining to assume command of the new district committed to his charge.

The force at Peshawur had moved to the Sikh cantonments on the west side of the city.

It is stated that the guns taken from the Sikhs during the recent campaigns are to be conveyed in triumph from Ferozepore to Calcutta, and that, notwithstanding the heat of the season, a whole regiment of native infantry will accompany these trophies on their progress.

Both the Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief are at Simla.

THE CHOLERA AT PLYMOUTH.—This dreadful malady has made its appearance in the vicinity of Plymouth. On Tuesday last the American packet-ship *American Eagle*, from London and Portsmouth, arrived at Plymouth with 300 emigrants, and the cholera made its appearance the same evening. Nineteen deaths are reported to have taken place. The disease is also reported to have made its appearance at the little fishing town of Newton Ferrers, about eight miles from Plymouth. Every measure of precaution has been taken by the proper authorities.

SHORT PARLIAMENTS.—The following is a copy of Mr. D'Eyncourt's bill for shortening the duration of Parliaments: "Whereas it is expedient to shorten the term during which Parliaments may now by law have continuance: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that an Act passed in the first year of the reign of King George the First, intitled 'An Act for enlarging the time of continuance of Parliaments, appointed by an Act made in the sixth year of the reign of King William and Queen Mary, intitled 'An Act for the frequent meeting and calling of Parliaments,' be, and the same is hereby repealed. And be it enacted, that this present Parliament, and all Parliaments, that shall at any time hereafter be called, assembled, or held, shall and may respectively have continuance for — years, and no longer, to be accounted from the day on which, by the writ of summons, this present Parliament hath been, or any future Parliament shall be, appointed to meet, unless this present or any such Parliament hereafter to be summoned shall be sooner dissolved by her Majesty, her heirs or successors."

ASCOT RACES.—FRAUDS ON THE REVENUE.—The Commissioners of Inland Revenue adopted the most efficient means for the prevention of frauds by the proprietors of vans and other vehicles attending races. Bars were erected by order of the Commissioners on all the roads leading to Ascot, in the vicinity of the heath, where tickets for horses let for hire were collected, and the exchange tickets inspected; and where all coaches, omnibuses, &c., conveying passengers at separate fares were also checked. Orders had likewise been issued by the Commissioners for the apprehension of all persons plying for hire without being duly licensed, or "specially authorised;" and for the seizure of all horses and carriages so employed. The stringent execution of this plan will be an effectual means of putting a stop to the calling of "the unlicensed," and of protecting the honest and duly licensed tradesman.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The House of Peers re-assembled after the Whitsun recess, the Earl of Shaftesbury, in the absence of the Lord Chancellor, who is slightly indisposed, presiding.

On the motion of the Earl GRANVILLE, the Accounts of Turnpike Trusts (Scotland) Bill passed through committee.

On the motion of Lord EDDISBURY, the Apprehension of Deserters (Portugal) Bill was committed.

THE NAVIGATION BILL.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE postponed to Tuesday next the third reading of the Navigation Bill, in consequence of the inability of the Bishop of Oxford to be present on an earlier day.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

In reply to a question from Lord STANLEY, The noble Marquis stated that the correspondence between the committee of Privy Council and the committee of the National Society, on the subject of the conditions and regulations under which grants could be made for purposes of education, was progressing in a satisfactory manner. Arrangements had been proposed by the Privy Council, that were satisfactory to many heads of the Church. The correspondence and rules would be laid before Parliament, and both Houses would have full opportunity of considering any new arrangement before it would be carried into effect.

The Bishop of LONDON disclaimed, on the part of the Church, all responsibility for the acts of the committee of the National Society. That committee should not be regarded as the rulers or heads of the Church.

LEASEHOLD TENURE OF LAND (IRELAND).

Lord CAMPBELL moved the reception of the report, with amendments, of the Leasehold Tenure of Lands (Ireland) Bill.

Lord STANLEY, Lord BROUGHAM, the Earl of LUCAN, and other noble Lords, objected to the motion, on the ground that the bill had been hurried forward without due deliberation. The Earl of LUCAN moved as an amendment that the bill be referred to a select committee.

After a short conversation, Lord CAMPBELL postponed his motion for the reception of the report.

CALEDONIAN RAILWAY.

Lord MONTEAGLE, on presenting a petition, made a statement condemnatory of the conduct of the directors of the Caledonian Railway in dealing with the money of their shareholders.

LANDLORD AND TENANT BILL.

Lord PORTMAN moved the second reading of the Landlord and Tenant Bill—the bill introduced by Mr. PUSEY in the House of Commons, and which was so much discussed and altered during its protracted progress through that House. Lord BROUGHAM opposed the bill, as absurd in one part and mischievous in the other. He moved that it be read a second time that day six months.

Lord CAMPBELL considered the bill liable to objection in some of its provisions, but salutary in others. He therefore could not agree to its rejection, as it might be so amended in committee as to render it a useful measure.

The Earl of WICKLOW also supported the second reading.

Their Lordships then divided.

For the second reading of the bill—Contents, 9; non-contents, 5; majority, 4. The bill was read a second time.

[During the recess the gallery assigned to the reporters has been removed, and a temporary gallery erected in its place. It is brought forward six feet and lowered three feet. As to the acoustic properties of this new gallery, it is some improvement on its predecessor, though far from satisfactory. There is one part of the new arrangement which is obviously liable to great objection, and which must be altered. The back seats in the gallery are apparently devoted to members of the House of Commons; but should these very talkative gentlemen be admitted there, the reporters will have little chance of hearing their Lordships' proceedings.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

CANADA.

Mr. GLADSTONE gave notice that he would take an opportunity, on the House going into Committee of Supply, to draw attention to the subject of the Canada Indemnity Bill.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES (IRELAND) BILL.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL then moved the third reading of the Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill.

Sir LUCAS O'BRIEN moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a third time that day six months.

Colonel DUNNE seconded the amendment; and was followed in his objections by Mr. GEORGAN, Mr. NAPIER, and Mr. HENLEY.

Mr. SADLER supported the bill.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL briefly defended the bill.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 12; against it, 117: majority against, 105.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

SUPPLY.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and the remainder of the civil services (miscellaneous) estimates were agreed to.

The House having resumed, the report from Committee of Supply on Friday night was brought up, and agreed to.

The Pupils Protection (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.

The Sheep Stealing (Ireland) Bill was also read a second time.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.

Mr. HAWES then moved for leave to bring in a Bill for the Better Government of the Australian Colonies. The bill was framed with a view to meet the wishes of the colonists, and was so framed as to conform, as far as possible, to the constitution of New South Wales. One of the main objects of the bill was to carry that constitution into practical effect, so far as all the colonies were concerned. It created a new and distinct colony at Port Phillip, this colony to be henceforth called Victoria; and conferred upon this colony, upon Western Australia conditionally, and upon Van Diemen's Land, constitutions similar to that of New South Wales. But the great feature of the bill was, that it provided for the federation of all the Australian colonies. The colonies, having each an independent Legislature for the management of local affairs, were to be empowered to send delegates to a General Legislature, which would have the exclusive power of legislating in all matters of imperial interest, so far as all the colonies were concerned. The bill also provided for the control which the colonies were to have over the Civil List, specifying the instances in which they might alter, and of those in which they could not alter it. The bill also provided for the creation of Municipal Bodies. It likewise contained a provision empowering the colonists to change their constitution, by bill, having the direct assent of the Crown to its introduction. At present the constitution of New South Wales, which was to be the model, consisted of a governor and one chamber, one-third of which is nominated by the Crown, and the remaining two-thirds elected by the people. What the bill proposed was, to allow the colonists, when they saw fit, to adopt two chambers instead of one, or to make such other changes in their constitution as might not be incompatible with the general arrangement. The bill further provided for putting the trade of their colonies on such a footing that the intercourse between them would be as free as between county and county in England. There were other and minor provisions in the bill, but the foregoing constituted its main features. He concluded by moving for leave to bring in the bill.

Mr. GLADSTONE was friendly to the general purposes of the bill, on which he wished to make a few remarks, lest it should progress through the House without exciting attention. He thought it important that the bill should deal properly with the important and somewhat difficult question of the franchise in the colonies. He was favourable to the principle of district or municipal councils, but feared that some of the colonies were not yet fitted to receive them. As to the constitution of the proposed legislative bodies, he thought that the Government, without bringing itself into collision with public sentiment in the colonies, should go as far as possible towards recommending a double instead of a single Chamber. He was inclined to believe that public sentiment in the colonies was not inimical to a second Chamber. They would have the greatest difficulty in working a federal system on any other basis than that of the double Chamber. He approved of the proposal to empower the colonies to modify their own constitutions, and their own civil lists. He was anxious to ascertain the views of the Government with respect to transportation, in connexion with this measure. He saw considerable danger in Parliament taking the subject of colonial tariffs into its hands, with a view to secure uniformity of commercial legislation amongst the colonies; and thought that this was a matter which the colonies should be allowed to manage for themselves. With these views, he would leave the matter for the present in the hands of the House, holding himself at liberty to take what course he pleased on the future stages of the bill.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Adjourned at a quarter to twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.

Lord BROUGHAM moved the committee of the Bankrupt Law Consolidation Bill. The noble and learned Lord gave the history and outline of the bill, and described the various amendments that had been made in it, in accordance with the suggestions of the most eminent commercial authorities, and to suit the advice of the Lord Chancellor and other legal functionaries. The noble and learned Lord, in the course of his remarks, stated the startling fact that not less than £50,000,000 per annum was lost in this country by bankruptcies and insolvencies. He urged upon their Lordships the necessity of expediting so important a measure as much as possible, so as to allow of its becoming law during the present session. In illustration of the advantages which might be anticipated from the alterations contemplated to be effected by the present measure, he mentioned two especially, which were the greatest in his opinion: first, that the trader who must give credit would be disposed to limit it, and be more cautious as to whom he trusted; and, secondly, that when a debtor found he could no longer elude the operations of his creditors, owing to the stringency of the bill, he would feel bound to act with greater honesty and care, and would be induced to square his expenses more nearly with his means. By the existing law the commissioner had the power of awarding imprisonment for a year, if a bankrupt did not answer. This power was, however, now overruled, and the bill provided that the punishment in this respect should be the refusal of protection, and of the certificate, instead of imprisonment, and the period of withholding which to be definitely limited.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE felt that the bill was one of the first importance to the commercial interests of the country, and agreed in the opinion that it should be forwarded through Parliament with the least possible delay.

Lord CAMPBELL considered the bill a great improvement on the existing Bankrupt Law.

After a few observations from Lord WHARNCLIFFE, the bill passed through committee, and was ordered to be read a third time.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, the Encumbered Estates (Ireland) Bill, brought up from the Commons, was read a first time, and the second reading was fixed for Monday.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

To a question from Lord BROUGHAM, The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied, that the hopes of the termination of the hostility between Denmark and Prussia were increased by the dissolution of the Frankfurt Assembly.

Lord CAMPBELL moved the reception of the report of the Leasehold Tenure of Lands (Ireland) Bill.

The Earl of LUCAN opposed the bill, and moved, as an amendment, that it be re-committed, and referred to a select committee.

Lord CAMPBELL defended the principle and details of the bill.

Lord MONTEAGLE did not wish to do anything that would defeat the bill, to the principle of which he was favourable; but he thought it would be advisable to refer it to a select committee.

The Earl of DEVON objected to the principle of the bill. If it were a permissive measure, it might effect some good; but it was a compulsory measure, and to such he had great objection.

Lord REIDESDALE and the Earl of GLENGALL supported the amendment.

The Earl of WICKLOW spoke in favour of the bill.

The Earl of LUCAN withdrew his amendment, and the report of the bill was received.

On the motion of Lord EDDISBURY, the Apprehension of Deserters (Portugal) Bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL assigned Thursday week for the discussion on the Rebellion Losses (Canada) Bill.

Mr. GLADSTONE agreed to that arrangement, on the understanding that no steps should be, in the meantime, taken by the Government that would prejudice the question.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that all he could promise was, that the Government would not, in the meantime, declare their confirmation of the bill; but he could not promise that they would not decide on the course they would pursue in regard to it.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

Mr. HUME moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the national representation, by extending the elective franchise so as to include all householders, by enacting that votes shall be taken by ballot, that the duration of Parliaments shall not exceed three years, and that the apportionment of representatives be rendered more equal to the population. The hon. member, in recapitulating the arguments in favour of his new reform, referred to the effects of the extension of political power on the Continent as proof of the advisability of granting to Englishmen similar franchises to those conceded to Austrians, Prussians, Frenchmen, &c. The exercise of universal suffrage in France had shown that country ranged itself on the side of Conservatism. Retrenchments were absolutely necessary for the safety of Great Britain, but without further political reforms large retrenchments were hopeless. Whether the population or property were taken as the basis, the national representation was most unequal.

Mr. H. BARKLEY seconded the motion.

Sir G. GREY opposed it. The right hon. gentleman drew a contrast of the condition, political and material, of this country with the distracted state of continental nations, to demonstrate the value of the constitution under which we enjoyed freedom and tranquillity, but which the hon. member would treat so lightly. There was little in the circumstances of continental Europe at this time England could wish to imitate. If France had universal suffrage, she had likewise in her capital 100,000 armed men, on whom and on the firmness of the Government the people of France depend for the tranquillity of the country; and, unless the hon. member were willing to take universal suffrage in England with a like accompaniment, he could draw no force for his argument from the example of France. The right hon. gentleman opposed the motion, because he believed the present House of Commons represented the property, the intelligence, and the industry of the country.

Mr. BRIGHT denied that the new plan of creating votes originated in Manchester. It was invented in Birmingham. He rejoiced, however, that some way had been found whereby the working classes would be enabled to thrust themselves gradually within the pale of the constitution. The hon. member proceeded, at considerable length, to argue—from the difficulties and dangers under which the Roman Catholic Emancipation Bill, the Reform Bill, the Corn-law Repeal Bill, and the measures for the improvement of Ireland were carried—that the constitution of Parliament was not in a proper working condition, and that the representative system was defective. As Parliament was at present constituted, it required either great danger or great calamity, or, as in the case of Ireland, the destruction of half a million of subjects, before the changes desired by the people could be effected.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, that whatever might be the intention or the wish of Mr. Hume, it was clear, from those who aided him—and, in aiding, overpowered him, that the proposition before the House went to the full length of admitting every adult male to the elective franchise—in effect, of carrying the six points of the Charter. Such was evident from the speech of Mr. Bright, who admitted that he had no respect for the Constitution, and who was prepared not to stop short of the Charter. The noble Lord explained the nature of the franchises established by the Reform Act, and declared that, in his opinion, those who supported that measure could not consistently vote for the motion before the House. But it was a different question whether or not it would be well to admit a greater number of working men to the franchise—whether, in the counties and in the boroughs, some other species of franchise than those existing ought to be created. His opinion was, as he stated last year, in favour of such an extension; and he should be happy to assist in admitting more of the working classes to the elective franchise, but not in the way advocated by Mr. Bright, and which had been explained by Mr. Newdegate. The noble Lord, in reply to Mr. Bright's charge that the Parliament and the Government were too aristocratic, and wanted the popular and democratic principle, asserted that the people of England were attached to the aristocracy, and reminded the honourable member that the aristocracy of to-day were frequently the democracy of a few years ago. Mr. Bright and his associates were, on their own pet subjects, well enough, but on questions of national and general policy their intellects and their understandings were bound up in a narrow round, beyond which it appeared they could not see. The noble Lord referred to the distracted condition of the continent of Europe to prove that there was nothing in the changes there going on that we should imitate. Amidst all the convulsions of the last year he saw three powers standing firm: one, the United States of America, a complete Democracy; the second, an absolute despotic Monarchy, the empire of Russia; and the third, the constitutional Monarchy of Great Britain.

Mr. B. OSBORNE was astonished at finding the quarters from which the opposition to Mr. Hume's motion proceeded. It did not come from the Tory benches, but from those who got into power on the shoulders of Mr. Hume and his friends, and who then turned round and called them narrow-minded traders.

Mr. P. WOOD supported the motion.

The House divided—For the motion, 82; against it, 268: majority against the motion, 184.

Adjourned at half-past twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House sat from noon to six o'clock.

Mr. MOFFATT moved the second reading of the Bankrupt and Insolvent Members Bill. This was the new bill introduced after the former one was withdrawn, with a view to obviate the objections which had been offered to its predecessor.

Sir W. CLAY had objections to the measure, which had not been removed, and he consequently moved, as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

After some observations from Captain Harris, Mr. Mackinnon, Mr. Bernal, Mr. Mullings, Sir E. Colebrooke, and Mr. J. Stuart, the House divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 45; against it, 55: majority against, 10.

The amendment having been thus rejected, the bill was read a second time, whereupon it was ordered to be committed on Wednesday next.

The Bribery at Elections Bill then went through committee.

The adjourned debate on further proceedings on the third reading of the Affirmation Bill was resumed by

Mr. LAW, who was of opinion that our courts of justice might as well be closed, should the measure pass into a law.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—For the third reading, 73; against it, 61: majority for, 22.

The bill was thus read a third time.

On the motion that the bill do pass,

Mr. LAW persisted in again dividing the House. The numbers were—For the motion, 77; against it, 73: majority for, 4.

The remaining formalities were then gone through, and the bill was ordered to be sent to the House of Lords, a brief conversation having previously taken place as to whether the title and formal question, "That this be the title of the bill," was or was not put.

Mr. AGLONBY moved the second reading of the Copyholds Enfranchisement Bill.

After some observations from Mr. HEATHCOTE in opposition to the bill

Mr. TURNER moved, as an amendment, that it be read a second time that day six months.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained in a few brief sentences the reasons which induced him to vote for the second reading, reserving to himself the right to take whatever course he might think fit on the future stages of the bill.

The House divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 55; against it, 80: majority against, 25.

The bill was then read a second time.

Mr. MACKINNON moved the second reading of the Smoke Prohibition Bill.

Mr. WILLIAMS regarded the bill as unnecessary, mischievous, and partial, and moved as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

A brief conversation ensued, after which the House divided, and the numbers were—For the amendment, 37; against it, 72: majority against, 35.

The bill was then read a second time.

The other business was then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

DEFECTS IN LEASES BILL.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, this bill was read a second time.

BANKRUPTCY LAWS CONSOLIDATION BILL.

Lord BROUGHAM moved the third reading of this bill, and in doing so expressed his objection to any proposal that might be made for the diminution of the salary of the Chief Commissioner. He thought that nothing could tend more to create a zeal in the execution of their duty on the part of officers than the prospect of promotion, and he should be sorry to see this stimulus taken away from the junior Commissioners in Bankruptcy.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

CLONMEL SCHOOL.

On the motion of the Lord Bishop of DUBLIN, the special report of the Education Commissioners relative to the endowed school of Clonmel, was ordered to be laid on the table, after Lord Monteagle had explained that the Education Commissioners and the Commission for National Education were two distinct bodies. The report was an answer to some charge which had been brought against the Commissioners.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

At four o'clock, when the Speaker took the chair, there being but 34 members present, an adjournment took place, 40 members being requisite to constitute "a House."

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

OXFORD.

A Convocation will be held on Tuesday, the 12th of June, at two o'clock, for the purpose of electing a Professor of Anglo-Saxon, on the foundation of Dr. Rawlinson, in the room of Mr. Buckley, Fellow of Brasenose College, whose period of office has now expired.

The Professor of Modern European Languages, Sir Robert Taylor's foundation, began his course of lectures in the Taylor Institution, on Tuesday last.

TRINITY COLLEGE.—Robert Edward Bartlett, of Balliol College and Rugby School, and Lewis Campbell, of the High School, Edinburgh, and University of Glasgow, have been elected Scholars of Trinity College.

A Convocation will be held on Thursday, June 14th, at one o'clock, for the purpose of electing a Prælector of Logic, in the room of Mr. Mitchell, Vice-Principal of Magdalen Hall, whose period of office has expired. The gentlemen whose names are mentioned as candidates are, Mr. Christian, Fellow and Tutor of Oriel; Mr. Mansell, Fellow of St. John's; and Mr. Wall, Fellow of Balliol, and Vice-Principal and Tutor of St. Alban Hall.

Mr. Portal, of Christ Church, has been elected chairman of the Heraldic Section of the Architectural Society. At the meeting on Wednesday, the 30th ult., Mr. Norris Dech read a paper on Legendary Coat Armour.

ELDON LAW SCHOLARSHIP.—John Conington, Esq., B.A., Fellow of University College, has been elected by the trustees to the Eldon Law Scholarship. Mr. Conington was in the first class in Litt. Human., Michaelmas Term 1846; Ireland Scholar and Hertford Scholar, 1844; and gained the prize for Latin verse in 1847, and for the English Essay in 1848.

BISHOPRIC OF LIMERICK.—The Rev. William Higgin, Dean of Limerick, Ardfer, and Aghadoc, is appointed to the bishopric of the united dioceses, vacant by the death of the Hon. and Right Rev. Edmund Knox, D.D.

ORDINATION.—The Bishop of Oxford held an Ordination on Sunday last, in the Church of Cuddesden parish, when twenty-four deacons and eleven priests were admitted into their respective orders.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE EDUCATION OF THE POOR.

The annual general meeting of this society took place on Wednesday last, at twelve o'clock, at the central rooms of the society, Westminster, the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. The meeting was very numerously attended, nearly half the bench of Bishops being present, besides Archdeacons, and many of the nobility. The great source of discussion was the resolution of Mr. Denison, of which we gave a copy in our last week's paper. It was seconded in a speech of great length by the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth. Sir T. Acland opposed the resolution, expressing his full confidence in the committee. Archdeacon Allen also condemned Mr. Denison's resolution, and proposed an amendment; this was seconded by Mr. Fuller, but was ultimately rejected by an overwhelming majority. Archdeacon Manning, after coinciding with the views taken by Archdeacon Wilberforce and the Earl of Harrowby, proposed the following amendment:—"That this meeting acknowledge the care and attention of the committee in conducting the correspondence still pending with the Committee of Privy Council, and they regret to find that a satisfactory conclusion has not yet been attained. That, while this meeting desires fully to co-operate with the State in promoting the education of the people, they are under the necessity of declaring that no terms of co-operation can be satisfactory which are not based on principles and models sanctioned and commanded by the Church of England." A warm discussion followed, and ultimately, in order to meet the wishes of Mr. Denison, the following was added to the amendment:—"And in particular, when they shall so desire it, to put the management of their schools solely in the clergy and the bishop of their diocese." After some hesitation on the part of Mr. Denison, before he consented to withdraw his original resolution, the amendment was carried almost unanimously. Mr. Denison then moved an adjournment, which the Archbishop refused to put, as he had no power, and in the midst of considerable confusion declared the meeting at an end.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT & STRANGE, AND THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL & STRANGE.

His Honor Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce gave judgment on Saturday last in these causes, which came before the Court on the hearing, and with the particulars of which the public are familiar. The principal points to be decided were as to the costs and the delivering up of the etchings.

The defendant Judge sued in *forma pauperis*. His Honor said that, however the wording of the injunction obtained against the defendant Judge might be amended, substantially he must remain permanently under the prohibition under which he was now placed, and be placed under that further prohibition under which his co-defendant, Mr. Strange, was. With regard to the catalogues, they must be either cancelled or destroyed, and, without destruction, they could hardly be cancelled. With regard to the impressions, he could see no reason why the effectual destruction of them should not be directed; in doing which his Honor would abstain from giving any opinion as to the particular mode which the Court ought to adopt in a case similar in all parts except as to the intrinsic value of the materials. On the question of costs, he believed the custom of the Court, where the merits appeared to require such a course, was to direct the pauper to pay the costs up to the time at which he became a pauper. If the course of the Court did not allow it, which was a point the officers of the Court would determine, costs would not be given; but if it was according to the course of the Court, he could not refuse to give the plaintiff his costs, the defendant's case failing in law, equity, truth, and common honesty.

THE ROYAL ETCHINGS.—Mr. Judge, acting upon the advice of his friends, contemplates appealing to the Lord Chancellor against the judgment of Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce (given above). The preliminary proceeding was taken by Mr. Judge on Saturday, immediately after judgment had been given, by his entering a caveat against enrolment of the decree (in each suit) made by his Honor the Vice-Chancellor. It appears that, according to the practice of the Court of Chancery, this prompt mode of proceeding was necessary to be adopted; for, after a decree has once been enrolled, a suit—whether plaintiff or defendant—is deprived of the privilege of appeal to a higher jurisdiction. Mr. Judge, by pursuing this course, stays this proceeding for twenty-eight days; his object being to obtain an order for an issue to be tried at common law, so that a jury may decide in whom the property in the "Royal Etchings" is vested.

DUBLIN IMPROVEMENT BILL.—After the successive failures of a number of bills promoted by corporate bodies and individuals in Dublin for the improvement of that city, the Government have at length prepared a measure directed to that object. The bill contains no less than 128 clauses. It proposes to repeal the paving, lighting, cleansing, widening, and street improving acts now in force, and to vest the control in the Lord Mayor and Town Council. A great number of the clauses relate to sanitary regulations and the control of the markets. Powers are also given to establish a fire brigade, as in London; brokers and dealers in marine stores are to be licensed; public clocks to be erected, and baths and other conveniences to be established. The bill is in all respects a Health of Towns Bill.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—We hear that Dr. Turley, of Worcester, is expressing some doubts of the approach of this scourge. He has for several years been a close observer of all meteorological phenomena, and more especially of those in connexion with atmospheric electricity. On the 9th of June, last year, he observed that the electrometer indicated a very low degree of positive electricity; this continued three days, when the normal quantity was restored for one day; again the instrument showed its deficiency, and in three days more the haulm and leaves of the potato plant showed signs of the commencement of the disease; in a fortnight it prevailed almost universally, and by the end of the month the fields were disgusting from the odour of putrefaction. He considers that the free positive electricity of the air is the chief agent of life in the vegetable as well as in the animal creation. The change which takes place in the leaves or lungs of the plant or animal imbues the juice taken with positive electricity, the agent of life. In the absence of electricity the sap returns to the tuber, and not possessing the defensive quality of life, the tuber perishes, undefended by this preservative power, and becomes subject to the ordinary chemical destruction or mortification. Few plants generate sap so rapidly as the potato; but other plants, such as the parsnip, celery, &c., are also found affected when the absence of electricity continues long. The rapid and healthy growth of vegetables excited artificially being supplied from one pole of the galvanic trough, and their withered state being retarded growth when the opposite pole is applied, seem to favour this gentleman's hypothesis. The recent labours of Sir William Snow Harris in connexion with atmospheric electricity bear on this subject. We hope Dr. Turley will continue his researches in this interesting field, and will soon favour the scientific public with the results of his observations.

SUGAR CULTIVATION IN THE WEST INDIES.



CANE-HOLEING.

The great interest attached to the West India interests, at the present moment has suggested the illustration of the culture and manufacture of one of the staple articles of the produce of the Islands—Sugar, from Sketches by an Artist long resident in the country, who has likewise furnished the accompanying descriptive details of the principal stages.

CANE HOLEING.

The first illustration represents a gang or number of Negroes, male and female, in the act of preparing the ground for the planting of the sugar-cane, which operation is commonly known by the term of *Cane Holeing*, and consists in making deep holes of about two feet square, in the centre of which the canes are planted.

The hoe is the most general implement employed for the purpose, as with it all inequalities of the land can be put into cultivation; for as the volcanic origin of the whole chain of West Indian Islands has given to most of them a mountainous character, and in many instances strewed large tracts of land with detached masses of rock, called by geologists *boulders*, the plough cannot generally be used; besides which (like many other old notions) it is very difficult to convince a Negro that he can work better with any other implement. This prejudice is, however, fast giving way under the perseverance of present landholders, and the plough is now being introduced wherever its services can be made available.

It is rather an amusing thing for a stranger to observe from a distance a gang of labourers employed as represented in the picture, particularly if they are many in number; as the regularity with which they all move, lifting their hoes simultaneously above their heads, and then striking them into the ground, accommodating their movements to the monotonous tone of some Negro song, conveys the idea of a piece of mechanism, rather than the motions of human beings.

The labourers are generally superintended by a superior Negro, called the Driver, or by the overseer of the estate. By these the ground to be hoed is marked out, by placing small pieces of stick at intervals, which serve as tallies for the quantity done, as also to regulate the size of the holes.

As the overseer has frequently to traverse large tracts of land in the course of his inspection, he is usually provided with a mule; and the most important part of his equipment appears to be one spur, fastened to his right or left heel by a strap, without which spur an overseer would scarcely be recognised: but why one spur and not a pair should be the favourite fashion, is a mystery.

The labourers are usually expected to turn out to work at daybreak, which varies from four o'clock to five in the morning during the year; but in many instances it is six o'clock before a gang are in the field.

In Grenada, and one or two other islands visited by the writer, the common signal for summoning the people to their work is the blowing of a conch-shell; this is done by the overseer or manager, and the sound can be heard for a very long distance.

The time represented in the Sketch is morning; in the distance are seen the sugar-works of the estate, and a herd of cattle are being driven to the pasture. A young mountain cabbage tree forms the boundary of the picture.

The Cutting and Carrying of the Canes constitutes the actual commencement of crop time or harvest, and is a period of bustle and excitement throughout all the West Indian colonies. Nothing is heard but shouting of labourers, cracking of whips, neighing of mules, lowing of cattle, and rumbling of mill machinery; amidst all this are seen the labourers, armed with their cutlasses and cane bills (the implements used for cutting the canes), hurrying to the field, the women, with their petticoats tucked up to their knees so as not to impede their movements, carrying their little tin cans of provisions, and laughing, singing, talking, and showing their rows of white teeth. Mules and donkeys, harnessed and hampered with crooks for carrying the canes, are driven to the

field by the "Cattle Boys." Then comes a waggon rumbling slowly along to the measured step of heavy oxen accompanied by their drivers, whose exertions to urge on their team are vented in screams, yells, and hootings. The appearance of a fine field, when the canes are ripe for cutting, waving their lofty and delicate rods of blossom (called from their shape *arrows*) in the mildest motion of the breeze, forms a picture equally interesting and beautiful. The flower, which is of the lightest delicate lilac colour, hangs down round the upper extremity of the stem-like floss silk, and is so extremely fine in its fibres that on its becoming dry, all attempts to preserve it in its original form are unavailing.

A SUGAR-MILL AT WORK.

This represents the most common apparatus to be met with; viz. a vertical mill of three rollers: the centre one being turned by machinery, either worked by steam, wind, or water, sometimes by cattle, propels the other two. The surfaces of these rollers are of iron, slightly grooved, so as to more firmly hold the cane; while the compressed liquor or juice of the cane runs down the grooves into the cistern or strainer, from whence it is led by a pipe into the boiling-house.

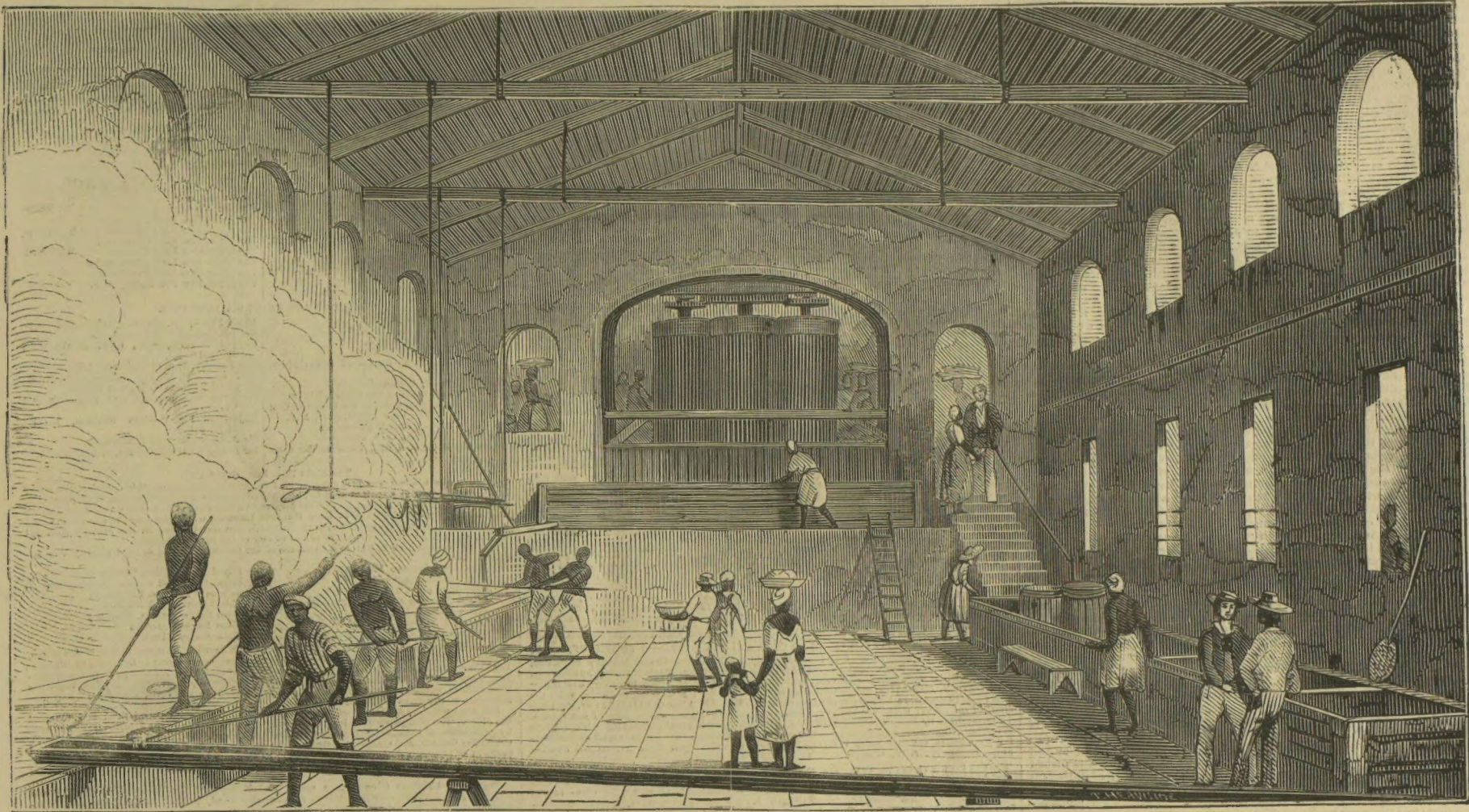
Two Negroes, either male or female, usually called *feeders*, supply the rollers with the canes as they are brought in by the others, and, holding the cane by one end, place the other between the outer rollers and the centre one, when, the cane being drawn through, is completely crushed, and the refuse or vegetable skin passes to the back, from whence it is continually cleared away by other labourers, and removed to the yard.

This refuse is called *megass*, and is stacked in large buildings termed *megass-houses*, generally supported on pillars, and open on all sides, with a tiled roof over it. The *megass* here remains to dry, to be used as fuel for supplying the furnaces of the boiling-house and still. The destruction of one of these *megass-houses* by fire, which, through carelessness and its inflammable nature, is unfortunately of frequent occurrence, is a most serious loss; as, in most of



SUGAR-MILL AT WORK.

SUGAR CULTIVATION IN THE WEST INDIES.



INTERIOR OF A SUGAR-BOILING HOUSE.

the islands, although wood is extremely abundant and readily procured, the people seem to depend entirely on the megass for fuel.

In this place it may not be amiss to draw the attention of the reader to the utility of the sugar-cane, from its growth to its being reduced to ashes, and in how many ways it is made subservient to the cultivator.

The cane is cut down, and the trash or *débris* left on the field remains to rot, and forms a most splendid manure for the ensuing crop. The fresh green tops and leaves being collected, serve as fodder for the cattle. The cane is crushed, its juice extracted, and converted into sugar; the refuse and drainage, called molasses, is fermented, distilled, and becomes rum. The remains of the cane, called the megass, becomes fuel to supply the furnaces; and, lastly, the ashes of the burnt megass, when mixed with lime, forms the finest cement for coating the interior of cisterns, tanks, or reservoirs, so necessary to all sugar-works.

The figures in the Sketch need no description beyond that already given. The mill exceeds in noise every other portion of the works during crop; as, to the rumbling, crushing, squeaking sound of its machinery, are added the vociferous clamour of the Negroes, whose incessant calling to each other for canes to supply the rollers constitutes a din almost insupportable.

INTERIOR OF A BOILING-HOUSE.

This Sketch has been chosen from many others, on account of a view of the mill and rollers being obtained through an open arch at the extremity of the long chamber constituting the Boiling-House, which assists in illustrating the manufacture more readily. On the right-hand side of the picture are seen the row of boilers, which are large cast-iron cauldrons firmly set into masonry, and heated by flues underneath, supplied by a furnace or furnaces, whose fuel

chambers open on the exterior of the building. The boilers are set into a platform raised a few feet from the floor; the top of which is inclined inwards, on all sides, round the mouth of each boiler, and is paved with smooth tiles, neatly set so as to prevent all waste in passing the boiling liquor from one to the other. As the juice is pressed from the canes, it flows through a strainer by a pipe into the first boiler next the mill; where having boiled a proper time, it is passed from that to another; and so on, till it has arrived at the sufficient state of refinement to admit of crystallization, when it is poured off, generally by means of a long wooden trough, into shallow vessels for that purpose. During the period of boiling, the contents of each boiler are continually skimmed by men provided with skimmers and strainers attached to very long handles. The boiling liquor is called *sing*. It is a very agreeable drink, and is much liked by the Negroes.

CARTING SUGAR FOR SHIPMENT.

This process is seen to the best advantage at Barbadoes, where the Sketch was taken, and where, during the shipping season, the wharves in the vicinity of the Carenage, from the News or Commercial-rooms to Trafalgar-square, present a scene of bustle and confusion which may be compared with that of Smithfield-market. Oxen were never very attractive to the writer, beyond their appearance in the shape of beef, or as picturesque auxiliaries to a landscape; and if any other point could obtain in their favour, the employment of them as mediums of locomotion does away with all. The enormous weight of the bar of wood pressing on their necks, by which they are yoked together, and their dull, heavy look and pace create an idea of suffering which cannot be compensated for, more particularly when to this is added, in too many instances, great brutality

on the part of the drivers. The teams of oxen generally consist of five pair to convey two hogsheads of sugar.

The excellent roads in Barbadoes afford great facilities for carting the sugar; but, in the mountainous, rugged roads of Grenada, and in the low, swampy tracts of a great portion of Trinidad, the labour is most severe, and the loss of cattle very great.

Of interest akin to the above is the accompanying letter, which we have just received, on

JAMAICA IN ITS PRESENT STATE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—In order to give your readers on the other side of the Atlantic a correct idea of the state of things, and as a favour to your Subscribers in this island, I must beg your insertion of this letter in your paper. To make my subject clear, I will divide the inhabitants of Jamaica into two classes, viz: the West Indians and the Peasantry. By West Indians I mean Europeans and their descendants residing here; and by the peasantry I mean the African labourers and their descendants. Political, religious, anti-slavery, and other writers have, at various times, and "to make out a case," sadly misrepresented the West Indies in public print and elsewhere; but in one particular they all appear to have become unanimous—one thing has not been misrepresented, and that is the tale of the cruel destitution to which they have been reduced by an unequal competition with the slave-holder. I write not to please a party, but to tell the truth. Were I



CARTING SUGAR FOR SHIPMENT.

James Mackenzie, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Tugwell, Mackenzie, and Clutterbuck, bankers, of Bath, has liberally given £150 to the Bath United Hospital, and £50 to the General Hospital. The same gentleman has recently presented the cashier and clerks of his firm with sums amounting in the whole to £1120, in acknowledgement of their faithful services.

THE ROYAL CHINESE JUNK IS NOW OPEN IN THE EAST INDIA DOCKS, adjoining the steamboat pier and railway terminus, Blackwall, surrounded by an ample enclosure and promenade. Admission, 1s. Numerous additions have been made to the collection, and now, Exhibition, including a Splendid Model of the most famous Pagodas in China, the most taken from the island of Hainan and his Lady in beautiful Court Costume—Grand Saloon of Curiosities—Mandarin Keelung, and Arrivals, singing, in full dress—Chinese Crew, Chinese Songs, &c. Conveyance constantly by railway omnibus, or steamboat. Admission, 1s. Catalogues, to be had only on board, price 6d.

GOVERNESSES' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

Enrolled under 10 George IV., cap. 56; and 3 William IV., cap. 14; and
Incorporated by Royal Charter,
With power to hold Land by Gift, Purchase, or Bequest.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
Her Most Gracious MAJESTY
Her Majesty QUEEN ADELAIDE
H R H THE PRINCE ALBERT
H R H THE DUCHESS OF KENT
H R H THE DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER
H R H THE DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE
H R H THE HEREDITARY GRAND DUCHESS OF MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ
PRESIDENT.—The Earl of HARROWBY
TREASURER.—BENJAMIN BOND CARRELL, Esq. M.P.
HONORARY SECRETARY.—The Hon. DAVID LAMB, M.A. F.R.
BANKERS.—Sir S. SCOTT and Co., 1, Cavendish-square; Messrs STRAHAN and Co., Temple-bar.
SECRETARY.—CHARLES WILLIAM KLUGH, Esq., at the Office, 23, Saville-street.

ROSHERVILLE GARDENS.—Admittance SIXPENCE.—These beautiful gardens, the ELYSIUM OF ENGLAND, are now seen in perfection. The fêtes and daily amusements as usual. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, there will be a brilliant display of Fire-works. Dancing in the hall at five o'clock: Baron Nathu, M. C. Military and quadrille bands. Refreshments of first-rate quality. Excursion parties liberally treated with on application to the Secretary, Monument Chambers, 15, Fish-street-hill. The Steamboats call at the Rosherville-pleasure every half-hour.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A LECTURE on FLORAL BOTANY, by Thomas Graham, Esq., M.R.C.S., on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, at Half-past Three. Lectures, by Dr. Baehoffner, on the Various Modes of producing Artificial Light; in which the Bude Light, the Oxy-Hydrogen Light, and the Electric Light will be exhibited in juxtaposition. A Lecture on Character, with Musical Illustrations, by J. Russell, Esq., every Evening at Eight o'clock. Lectures on Experimental Philosophy. The Microscope. The Dissolving Views include Scenes in Van Diemen's Land, from original drawings taken on the spot, by J. Skinner Prout, Esq.; also, a New Series of Dioramic Effects, by Mr. Childs. New Chromatopes. Diver and Diving Bell.—Admission, 1s; Schools, Half-price.

BANVARD'S ROYAL PAINTING OF THE MISSISSIPPI and MISSOURI RIVERS, at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, the largest painting ever executed, showing the scenery on the above great rivers, a distance of over 3000 miles, extending through the heart of America. This great Original Painting having been exhibited, by command, to her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the Royal Family, at Windsor Castle, where it received the Royal approbation, is now on exhibition at the Egyptian Hall. Morning, Half-past Two; Evening, Half-past Seven.—Admission: Lower Seats, 2s; Gallery, 1s. Doors open half an hour before commencing.

GRAND AMERICAN HALL, LEICESTER-SQUARE.—ORIGINAL AMERICAN PANORAMA OF THE MISSISSIPPI.—The Largest Painting in the World. "As a work of scenic art this Panorama is far superior to anything of the kind which has been brought across the Atlantic; while, as a work of information, it is worthy of universal patronage."—*Vide Times*, March 26.—Hours of Exhibition: Morning, half-past Two; Evening, Eight o'clock.—Best places, 2s; second ditto, 1s.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The Fifteenth Annual Exhibition of this Society is Now Open, at their Gallery, FIFTY-THREE, PALM-MALL, near St. James's Palace, from Nine o'clock till Dusk. Admission 1s; Catalogue 6d. JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

THE EXHIBITION OF the Association for Promoting the Free Exhibition of MODERN ART is NOW OPEN at the Gallery, Hyde Park-corner, daily, from 9 till dusk.—Admission, 1s. Catalogue, 6d. BELL SMITH, Hon. Secretary.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"W. J."—Address a note to Doctor Beke, 6, St. Mildred's-court, Poultry, who receives subscriptions in support of Dr. Bialloblitzky's Journey to Discover the Sources of the Nile.
 "S. Pictor."—See Clark's work on Water-Colours.
 "A Liverpool Artist."—Apply for photographic paper to Horne and Co., 113, Newgate-street.
 "A. R. A."—The engravings in our Journal are almost invariably on wood.
 "A Subscriber."—Winton, will find the Engraving in question in No. 256 of our Journal, to be had by remitting 1s. in postage stamps. We shall be glad to receive a short account of the presentation.
 "Student."—A little work on Drawing the Human Figure is published by Highley and Co., Fleet-street.
 "A Correspondent, R."—By the interest of an East India Director.
 "W. H."—Crayford.—Received.
 "A Constant and Country Subscriber."—Of Watkins and Co., opticians, Charing-cross.
 "A Subscriber," Coventry.—Sir John Franklin's Expedition left England in 1845.
 "Attorney," Sunderland.—Taylor's Short-hand, improved by Harding.
 "Q. E. D."—The character of Ranger is in the "Suspicious Husband." Vivid is the young poet in "Monsieur Jacques."
 "Φιλοτεχνος."—We cannot spare room for the minute details you have sent.
 "Γερανος."—The Eglinton Tournament took place before our Journal was established. See Buchanan's "Technological Dictionary."
 "Δελφω."—Apply to Longman and Co., Paternoster-row.
 "B." is thanked; but an engraving of the Montreal Fire was in the artist's hands when our correspondent's Sketch arrived.
 "A Reader," Waterford.—For the mode, see the "Cyclopædia of Practical Receipts."
 "Curiosity" should apply to the secretary, General Post-office. See Gleig's "Story of the Battle of Waterloo."
 "J. T. M." should apply at the address stated in the advertisement. The explanation is inconvenient to print here.
 "B. O. S."—See Nethercliff's "Map of the Thames."
 "T. P. B."—Wimborne, Dorset.—We cannot inform you.
 "O. X."—A Subscriber.—Not after having received the wages to the time of leaving.
 "J. M. M." Bradford.—See the last edition of the "British Tariff."
 "M. P." is thanked; but we scarcely think the circumstances in question demand the printing of his long letter.
 "A Subscriber," Lincolnshire, should apply, by letter, to the college.
 "J. E. R." Frankfort.—Redding's "History of Wines," published by Whittaker and Co., Ave Maria-lane.
 "J. W."—The children can claim one-third of the entire property.
 "Z. E. A. L."—The practice in question is not contrary to law.
 "Dahlia" and "T. H."—Declined.
 "A Scotch Cornel."—The present Marquis of Bute is an infant, having been born 12th September, 1847. His father, the late peer, who died 18th March, 1848, had remained a widower from 10th September, 1841, to the 10th April 1845, when his Lordship married his second wife, Lady Sophia Frederica Christina Hastings. The Marquis's estate of Luton Hoo, in Beds, was sold to Mr. Warde, of Clifton.
 "T. H."—Sevenoaks, had better keep at home.
 "Dungarvan."—We do not know of any such company.
 "J. B."—Sierra Leone, is thanked for the offer, though we could not avail ourselves of it.
 "J. B."—Liverpool.—The two-shilling piece is expected to be issued very shortly.
 "W. F."—Castellar, had better consult the "Post-office Directory."
 "T."—Belgrave-square.—Mille Lind is now on the road to Stockholm.
 "Amicus."—The owners of the vessel are liable for the debt.
 "I. O. U."—Barnstaple, will find a good recipe for preserving oranges in Cooke's "Cookery and Confectionery," p. 171. We cannot quote it.
 "Guillaume."—Swansea.—Lindley's work on "Gardening."
 "The Vice-Consul for the Republic in Jamaica" is thanked for the Portrait, though we cannot find room for it.
 "A. K." will find a memoir of Captain Manby in No. 50 of our Journal. We have received the interesting brochure named in our correspondent's letter.
 "W. H."—We have not space.
 "Q. Z."—1. Mario. 2. Lablache.
 "A. B."—Brockham.—Apply to the collector in your parish.
 "J. B. S."—Maidstone.—There was a steam-boat employed between London and Richmond in 1814. See the description of the large view of the Thames, in the Holiday Supplement to our Journal of May 26, 1849.
 "V. R."—Wills.—We will endeavour to remedy the defect.
 "A Subscriber from the beginning."—We do not understand the question as to Sergeant W.—
 "X. X. X." should consult the printed rules for playing bagatelle.
 "T. S. W."—Piccadilly, is thanked for the offer of the Views.
 "A. C. W." will find a Portrait of Gen. Bem in No. 344 of our Journal; still, our thanks are due for the suggestion.
 "J. G."—Hammersmith.—We have not room for the lines.
 "E. F."—The authoress of "Cheveley" is resident in Paris.
 "Ecarté."—We do not interfere in disputes at cards.
 "J. W." had better consult a solicitor.
 "C. N." Bristol, is thanked. The mis-statement has already been corrected.
 "H. S." Drogheda.—Senefelder's work on "Lithography."
 "E. O. E." is recommended to write to the secretary of the society in question.
 "A. B. C."—Hendon.—Probably some local Act of Parliament will explain the toll.
 "J. M. C."—We have not room.
 "Luda."—Louth.—Buy the "Principles of Gothic Ecclesiastical Architecture," by Mr. H. Bloxham, 9th edit., just published. Such students of the Royal Academy of Arts as have gained the Biennial Gold Medal, have, from time to time, an opportunity of being sent abroad to study for three years, at the expense of the Academy.
 "W. H. B." Bradford.—Yours is a case for counsel.
 "A. Z."—Yes.
 "Justitia."—The pay of a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Life Guards is £1 9s. 2d. per diem; of a Lieut.-Colonel in the Foot Guards, £1 6s. 9d.; and of a Lieut.-Colonel in the Dragoon Guards, £1 3s.
 "A Subscriber."—Maria Edgeworth, although of Irish parentage, was born in England.
 "John Bull."—See the Map of the Punjab, just published by Mr. Wyld, Charing-cross.
 "Eolin."—The medal of which you have sent a sketch was struck in silver at the time of the Irish Rebellion, in commemoration of the battle of Colonee, and was presented by the corporation of Limerick to its heroes.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED DURING THE WEEK.

Poems by Caroline Lethbridge.—St. Ethelbert.—Longfellow's Hyperion. Strife and Peace.—Veritas, a Poem.—The Enchanted Doll.
 Music.—The Hungarian Polka.—Norma.—Davidson's Pianoforte Duets.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1849.

THE French President has, contrary to general expectation, made another attempt to do without the dangerous aid of the Algerine Generals, and a physical force Administration. The new Ministry has been formed under the nominal Premiership of M. Odillon Barrot, composed of men whose principles are moderately Republican, and whose antecedents have not rendered them obnoxious to any of the great contending parties. MM. de Tocqueville, Dufaure, Passy, Tracy, and Lanjuinais are all men of talent and character, and form a Ministry which the friends of the Government

represent as one of conciliation. It seems doubtful, however, whether they can hold together. M. Odillon Barrot, by his blundering intervention in Rome, has rendered the situation so difficult, that even these able, temperate, and impartial men can find no means of extricating the French Republic from the dilemma in which the desperate courage of the Roman triumvir has placed it. They have already disagreed upon the Italian question, to the great satisfaction of the inveterate "Mountain," and to the regret of all who desire the establishment of a firm, yet liberal and consistent Government in France.

THERE is at length an end of the Irish State Trials. All the forms of the law have been exhausted—and every effort has been made which could be made, either by the prisoners themselves or by their friends, to set aside the verdict, or, if that were impossible, to obtain a commutation of the sentence passed upon them. They have been successful in the latter object; and the sentence of death passed upon Mr. Smith O'Brien, Mr. Meagher, Mr. M'Manas, and Mr. O'Donohue has been commuted into one of transportation for life. No other result than this could have been reasonably anticipated by the prisoners themselves or by their most zealous friends.

Irish agitation—in the form, at least, that the present generation has been accustomed to behold it—may now be considered at an end. The flame lit up by Daniel O'Connell has gone fairly out; and there is neither light nor heat in the ashes that it has left. It would be too much to say that agitation will not be revived in that portion of the United Kingdom. Whenever there is popular misery, there is a material for disturbance; but we think, at all events, that any agitation which may hereafter arise will take a new shape. It may be possible to prevent agitation altogether by a series of remedial measures for making the natural resources of the country available for the employment and sustenance of the people. At all events, there are no party and political bitternesses to prevent the earnest consideration of the social wants of the country. The population is thinned by famine and disease; and the multitudes still remaining are too dispirited and down-stricken to be politically troublesome. The great objects to be accomplished are to convince Englishmen that the condition of a country naturally so fertile is not utterly desperate, and to facilitate the introduction of capital into it. The measures introduced by the Government have these purposes in view. They require time, however, for their operation, and are not calculated to remove all at once the accumulated evils of a bad system which landlords and tenants have alike been instrumental in fastening upon the country, until both have been involved in ruin by it. But are these measures of the Government equal to the occasion? Will they alone be sufficient to change, however gradually, the social condition of the people, from squalor, misery, and idleness, into comparative competency and industry? We think the most somnolent friend of the present Administration will scarcely flatter himself with such a hope, or confess that the Rate in Aid and the Bill for Facilitating the Sale of Encumbered Estates, on the one hand, or the punishment of such poor misguided "rebels" as Smith O'Brien and his companions in crime, on the other, are all that may be reasonably expected from the men who hold office in a time of such trial and importance as the present.

The misery of the people of Ireland is so great, and the stories related have such a sameness of melancholy horror, that there is an indisposition on the part of many to dwell upon the subject. The public sympathy has to some extent been deadened by the largeness of the demand made upon it. Men cannot feel so acutely for the sufferings of thousands and tens of thousands, recurring day after day and hour after hour, as they can for individual misery occurring more seldom. The death of one man from starvation in a London street, would excite more horror than the death of hundreds in a Skibbereen workhouse. But, although this is the case, it is not right that the largeness of Irish misery should produce the same effect upon the minds of the men who are entrusted with the government of the country. We hope, therefore, that the Whig Budget of Irish measures is not exhausted; and that either on the hint of Sir Robert Peel, or on a better one of their own, they will take some further steps, during the summer, for preventing Ireland from repeating in 1850 the awful spectacle it has afforded in 1849.

MR. HUME's annual motion for a reform in Parliament has met with but slight sympathy and support from the House of Commons, and with very decided opposition from the Government. But it requires no great amount of political penetration to see that the demand of the large party that clamoured for the Reform Bill of 1832; that were dissatisfied with that measure as soon as it was passed, and only accepted it as an instalment; and that have never since ceased to urge the necessity of further Reform, meets with more attention from men in power than they choose to express at the present moment. The public opinion of the upper and middle classes has been largely influenced by fear ever since the French Revolution of 1848; but, as that fear subsides, the cry of Parliamentary reform will increase in strength, and such statesmen as Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey, if they wish to retain their influence, will find it expedient to consider the question upon its own merits. Although we do not profess admiration for the scheme of Mr. Hume, or for any scheme that proposes to give to ignorance and poverty the constitutional privileges of helping to make the laws that are to govern intelligence and wealth, we should not view without alarm the conduct of the Ministers of the Crown if they took advantage of the weak parts of any particular scheme of reform, to deny and resist all reform. The argument that upon the whole our old constitution has worked tolerably well, and that the spick and span new constitutions of the people of the Continent have worked intolerably ill, is an appeal to prejudice, not to reason, which the men who introduced and supported the Reform Bill of 1832 will not persist in, and which they only use for a present purpose. They cannot but be aware that the nations of the Continent have yet to pass through a long and hard apprenticeship; that they do not understand the liberty of speech, thought, and action for which they clamour; and that, like all ignorant men and ignorant communities, they only get possession of liberty to degrade it into licence. Lord John Russell will not refuse to English wealth and intelligence, now excluded from the pale of the constitution, the exercise of privileges which, under the constitution as it at present stands, are enjoyed by hundreds and thousands of people who are neither wealthy nor intelligent, and who are besides grossly venal, merely because the Continent is in a state of revolution. That would be indeed unwise policy. Lord John Russell is aware of the danger, and though he appeals somewhat too much to the state of the Continent, he is too wise and cautious to commit himself against all Reform upon such grounds. All the rotten boroughs were not put into Schedule A. in 1832; and the last twenty years have seen the foundation and growth of prosperous and populous towns, which might be enfranchised without giving the most jealous Conservative the least cause for apprehension. Some scheme of this kind is probably in contemplation, if we may judge from the feelers put forth by the Ministerial paper, and by the admission of Lord John Russell, that he would be glad of the enfranchisement of the intelligent among the working classes. If wisely framed and speedily initiated, such a scheme might be the means of preventing much future agitation for changes which are not so likely to recommend themselves to universal favour.

POSTSCRIPT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The following bills passed through the several stages stated:—Accounts of Turnpike Trusts (Scotland)—Report received and amendments agreed to. Leasehold Tenure of Lands (Ireland) Bill—Third reading. Apprehension of Deserters (Portugal) Bill—Third reading. Freeman's Lands Bill—Select committee named.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

PALACE COURT.

Lord D. STUART gave notice of his intention to ask for leave to introduce a bill to bring the jurisdiction of the Westminster Palace Court under the operation of the County Courts Act.

ACCIDENTS IN COAL-MINES.

Mr. HUME said an explosion had taken place at a coal-mine on the 5th of this month, by which thirty-three persons had been killed; and as such accidents were constantly taking place, he wished to know whether the right hon. Baronet (Sir G. Grey) had taken any measures to ascertain the cause of it; or whether the Government contemplated any measure upon the subject generally?

Sir G. GREY had received no information on the matter. The subject of the regulation of mines had been for some time under the consideration of Government, and a measure had been prepared relative to a preliminary inspection of mines, to ascertain their actual state at the present time.

POOR RELIEF (IRELAND) BILL.

After some desultory conversation relative to the late evictions of tenantry in Ireland, the House went into committee on this bill.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION AT HEBBURN—THIRTY-THREE LIVES LOST

On Tuesday morning, about seven o'clock, a sudden and disastrous explosion took place at Hebburn Colliery, the property of Messrs. Thomas Easton and Co., about five miles east of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The explosion took place in the north-west district of the workings. An attempt to reach the district having succeeded, it was discovered that every workman within it, with the exception of one man, named Wm. Bell, had perished. Mr. James Easton, the viewer of the colliery, was speedily on the spot, and throughout the entire day used the most praiseworthy exertions to send the bodies of the unfortunate sufferers, thirty-three in number, to bank. At the shaft mouth, though surrounded by hundreds, including the relatives and friends of those who perished, not a word was interchanged, a solemn silence pervading all as the cage brought up the remains of some one who, on the previous day, they conversed with in the enjoyment of perfect health.

Various conjectures have been formed as to the cause of the accident, but nothing as yet has been ascertained that can be relied upon. The pit, it is stated, dropped working on Saturday, and the men never resumed their employment until Tuesday morning; and it was supposed that, from the density of the atmosphere on Monday evening during the thunder-storm, the current of air which usually ventilated the north-west district had been too weak to dislodge the gas at the top of the workings, and this rapidly accumulating, had occasioned the explosion by igniting at the candles used by the workmen. William Bell, the only survivor, is unable to throw the least light on the matter, seeing that he was suddenly overtaken by the blast, and laid before it insensible.

On Thursday preparations commenced for the removal of the celebrated marble arch from the east front of Buckingham Palace. It will be re-erected at the principal entrance to the Home Park at Windsor Castle.

Mr. Hayter, the newly appointed Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury, vice Mr. Parker, nominated Secretary to the Admiralty, has assumed the duties of his office.

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE ELECTION.—On Thursday, Lord Guernsey was returned, without opposition, on the Conservative interest, for this division of the county, in the room of J. E. Shirley, Esq., resigned.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

FRANCE.

Our latest accounts from Paris state that the Message of the President of the Republic had, on the whole, given satisfaction to the moderate men of all classes, as far as regards the President himself, who is known to have written every part of the Message which refers to his own acts. The general opinion among impartial men is, that the President is sincere, and that his intentions, if followed up, would produce good results.

It was understood in Paris yesterday (Friday) that the cause of M. Lesseps' return was that some serious disagreement had arisen between that Envoy Extraordinary and General Oudinot, which had induced the former to repair immediately to Paris for further instructions. Whatever may be the cause of difference between these two official individuals, it was generally believed that General Oudinot had received instructions to march into Rome, and that hostilities must have been resumed by the 3rd instant.

SARDINIA.

The malady of Victor Emmanuel still continues to cause anxiety. Should he die, it is proposed to recal Charles Albert as Regent, as the next heir is only five years old.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT WINDSOR CASTLE.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Buckingham Palace at three o'clock on Monday for Windsor Castle. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were attended to their carriage by the Duke of Norfolk, Master of the Horse; the Earl Portescue, Lord Steward; the Marquis of Breadalbane, Lord Chamberlain; and Lord George Lennox, Lord in Waiting to the Prince. The august party travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to the Slough station, and arrived at Windsor Castle at twelve minutes past four o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the 2nd Life Guards. In the course of the afternoon, the Duchess of Kent, Prince Henry of the Netherlands, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and a large party of the nobility, arrived at the Castle on a visit to the Queen and the Prince. In the evening, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales, and attended by Viscountess Canning, drove to Eton on an open pony phaeton, and entering the Brocas, witnessed the annual aquatic procession of the Eton boys to Surley Hall. The Royal party were accompanied by most of the distinguished guests staying at the Castle.

The Court visited Ascot Races on Tuesday. The Royal party proceeded to the course in four open carriages and the *char-a-banc* presented to the Queen by Louis Philippe. Her Majesty returned to the Castle at half-past four o'clock, and in the evening entertained a very large party at dinner in St. George's Hall.

His Royal Highness Prince Henry of the Netherlands, and his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, left the Castle on Wednesday and returned to town. On the same day, their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Prince George and his Royal Highness Prince Leopold of Naples (Count of Syracuse), arrived on a visit to her Majesty.

On Thursday the Court again visited Ascot Races.

THE PRUSSIAN LEGATION.—Madame Bursten opened the new residence of the Prussian Legation, on Carlton-house-terrace, on Tuesday evening, with a grand concert, in which the leading German artists at present in town took part. The *réunion* was honoured with the presence of a very distinguished circle of the *haut ton*.

THE RUSSIAN LEGATION.—His Excellency Baron de Brunnow gave a grand entertainment to his Royal Highness Prince Henry of the Netherlands, on Saturday last, at Ashburnham House. His Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar and a distinguished circle were present to meet his Royal Highness. On Sunday, his Excellency entertained the Turkish Ambassador and a large party.

THE CONDE DE MONTMOLIN.—We stated last week that a rumour prevailed in fashionable circles, to the effect that a marriage was in contemplation between this exiled member of the Royal family of Spain and Miss De Horsey, daughter of Mr. Spencer De Horsey. A formal announcement of the proposed alliance appeared in a contemporary some days since; but the same journal has since contradicted the report "on authority."

We are enabled to announce that the marriage of Lord Foley with the Lady Mary Fitzalan Howard, eldest daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, will be solemnised in London early in the ensuing month.

ALMACK'S.—The first ball of the second subscription took place on Thursday night, and, notwithstanding the counter attractions of the "Cup Day" at Ascot, obtained very distinguished patronage.

COLOSSEUM.—Prince Henry of the Netherlands, the Duchess of Roxburgh and party, the Duke and Duchess of Montrose and family, the Marquis of Salisbury, Countess Milgrave, Countess Hawarden, Lady Jersey, Lady Clementina Villiers, Lady Cardigan and party, Lady Cathcart, Lady Manvers and party, were among the numerous visitors to the Colosseum during the past week.

RUSSIAN MAIL-COACHES.—There are at present to be seen in Mr. John Croall's coach-building works, Leith-walk, Edinburgh, several vehicles which are to form portions of an extensive line of mail-coaches, manufactured by that gentleman for his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia. These fine specimens of coach-building art are fifteen feet long each, and are constructed in two chief compartments, calculated to carry each only two inside passengers, besides the capacious hind boot for the mail bags, and a fore basket fitted with leather aprons and glass, holding the guard, in addition to it two passenger occupants, whilst the driver only can be said to be mounted outside, being on the box. Thus the whole occupants of the capacious Russian mail travel in the most luxurious manner, amidst padding and cushions, with their faces to the horses. The exterior panels are most elaborately painted, and varnished in the Russian imperial livery of dark green, relieved with beads of gold, &c., and adorned with double crowned heads of the black eagle, with the sceptre and globe in its talons, the imperial crest and shield representing the equestrian Peter the Great. Along the principal door-heads of the vehicle are inscribed some Russian words. The coaches weigh about 22 cwt. each, and are destined to be drawn each by six horses, harnessed, four in the wheel, and two in the trace.



SKETCH FROM THE ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK, ON SATURDAY LAST.

THE ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY'S GARDENS, REGENT'S-PARK.

ON Saturday, the exhibition of American plants in full bloom, which forms the grand attraction of this season, was visited by her Majesty. The Queen arrived at the gardens at a quarter to ten, and was accompanied by H.R.H. the Prince Albert, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Princess Royal, and H.R.H. the Prince Alfred, and attended by Colonel Phipps and Colonel Bouverie, the Equerries in Waiting, and was received at the great gate by his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., President; the Marquis of Albury, V.P.; the Baron de Goldsmid, V.P.; Colonel Hanmer, C.B.; Mr. Deane, Mr. Jardine, Mr. Hyde Clark, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Prior, Members of the Council, and the officers of the society, Mr. Sowerby, Mr. Marnock, and Mr. Barnes, and attended by them through the gardens.

Her Majesty first proceeded by the main walk to visit the progress of the Winter Garden or Conservatory.

The Queen then proceeded to the American Exhibition, and minutely inspected the many fine specimens of rhododendrons and azaleas; this display being the only example of an exhibition on so large a scale where the plants have been sunk in the ground. Here the Secretary submitted to her Majesty the new work on the "Himalah Rhododendrons," by Dr. Hooker, son of Sir W. J. Hooker.

On leaving the American Exhibition, the Royal party proceeded towards the east side of the grounds. On retriving, her Majesty and the Royal party were presented, as usual, with bouquets by his Grace the President, and was graciously pleased to accept specimens of rhododendrons from the several exhibitors. Her Majesty was further pleased to express her satisfaction with the exhibition and her approval of the artistic arrangements adopted for its display.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester and suite arrived soon after and the rest of the Royal family likewise attended.

Since the last Exhibition, many fine plants have come into flower. In the collection of Mr. Baker, of Bagshot, were R. Catawbiense, a beautiful rose colour; elegans, Caucasum, and Everestianum, the latter with green spots. The azaleas most remarkable were aurantia, very bright; ponica, and coccinea, a bright scarlet. In Mr. Hosea Waterer's collection were, among numerous others, a plant of R. Wateriana, forty years old, and thirty feet in diameter, with thousands of flowers; this particularly attracted the attention of her Majesty. Messrs. Standish and Noble had on this occasion, in bloom, R. picturatum, a new scarlet hybrid, like a geranium, and grown to flower late, so as to escape the spring frost; R. Queen Victoria, a very dark bloom; Gulnare, a beautifully-shaped tree; and Alexandrina, a mass of white bloom. The collections of Mr. John Waterer and Mr. Lee were likewise remarkable for many well-grown and beautiful plants. The admirable manner in which the gardens were laid out by Mr. Marnock was universally commended.

The remaining General Exhibitions of the Society this season will be on June 20 and July 4.



ASCOT RACES.—THE ROAD.

ASCOT RACE PRIZE PLATE—1849.

THE three superb Prizes for this year's Ascot Meeting maintain, respectively, the advance which has been made of late years in this branch of the goldsmith's art, both in design and workmanship.

"THE QUEEN'S CUP"—the gift of her Majesty—represents a Spanish bull-fight, and is a very fine group, modelled by Mr. Cotterill, showing a very striking point of the Moorish spectacle. The fierceness and activity of the bull are admirably delineated; and the rider who is attacking him is a successful impersonation of spirit and caution. This group is from the establishment of Messrs. Garrard; as is, likewise,

"THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S VASE," also modelled by Mr. Cotterill. The subject is the story of Hippolytus, of which the following is the argument:—"The sea, having become weak and credulous in his old age, believed too readily a false accusation against his son, Hippolytus, made by his wife Phædra. Hippolytus, in order to escape from his father's rage, fled in his chariot—when his horses, becoming terrified at the sight of sea monsters, ran wildly along the shore, broke the chariot, dragged Hippolytus among the rocks, and so caused his death." The sculptor has produced a very rich and elegant model of this classical incident. The sea monsters are represented entwined round a rock, at the base of which Hippolytus is stretched, surrounded by the fragments of his chariot. The spirit and originality of the design are remarkable, and the sculptor has evinced great art in giving to his model a great variety of texture—a point of the highest importance in groups composed of the precious metals. On the pedestal is engraved the following inscription:—"Ludovici Ascotiensium memor quibus ipse intervisset Regine Victoriae hospes mens. Jun. 1844. Solenne certaminis Equestris Præmium instituit Nicolav totius Russiæ Imperator." The form of the Vase has the purity of the Etruscan, blended with the elegance of the Venetian, taste. The entire work stands about 36 inches in height. In the group, the figure of the unfortunate victim of Phædra is admirably modelled, the anatomical proportions being very finely developed, and the complete prostration of strength, both moral and physical, in the falling



THE QUEEN'S CUP.—SPANISH BULL FIGHT.

figure, happily described. The horses are, as this artist's horses invariably are, true to nature, yet sufficiently idealised to be classic, without being sublimated into mere fabulous extravagance. The whole composition is masterly, and worthy of high praise.

"THE ROYAL HUNT CUP" is of novel design: it is a tazza, supported on a foot, on which are represented in relief devices emblematical of field sports. There are the heads of stags, and does and the mark of buckhounds, and on the summit of the cover of the cup is a very spirited group of dogs mastering a stag. The workmanship is very elaborate, and the design elegant. The style partakes of the Italian and Elizabethan characteristics. It has been modelled at the establishment of Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, of Bond-street, under the direction of Mr. Bailey, R.A., and is one of the best specimens of this species of art hitherto produced. It was last week submitted to the inspection of the Queen and Prince Albert, who expressed their approbation of it.

His Royal Highness Prince Henry of the Netherlands honoured Messrs. Hunt and Roskell's establishment with a visit on Saturday last, and inspected the magnificent service of plate, valued at £6000, recently completed by that firm for the Earl of Ellenborough, to whom it has been presented by the officers of the Indian army. His Royal Highness also inspected the service of plate just completed for Sir John Littler, G.C.B., to whom it has been presented by the inhabitants of Calcutta; the Loo Remembrance Cup, presented by his Majesty, the King of the Netherlands; the Royal Hunt Cup; the Testimonial to Sir Moses Montefiore, and the magnificent stock of choice, plate and fashionable articles of bijouterie contained in the spacious show-rooms of this eminent firm; with the whole of which his Royal Highness expressed himself highly satisfied.

We may here mention that the subject of the Goodwood Cup, for the forthcoming meeting, is a representation of Sioux Indians hunting the bison in the prairies of North America. It offers a good example of Mr. Cotterill's skill of arranging in composition the human figure with those of the horse and other animal.



THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA'S VASE.—THE DEATH OF HIPPLYTUS.



THE ROYAL HUNT CUP.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Her Majesty's Regatta have this week been gratified with one of the most interesting meetings ever held on the far-famed Ascot Heath. Favourable weather and the presence of the Sovereign and a brilliant Court, on the two principal days, imparted a fascination to a scene which no course in the world can approach. A heavy thunder-storm preceded and accompanied her Majesty's progress to the course on the first day, and somewhat damped the ardour of her loving subjects. The reception, however, on Thursday, and the heartiness with which all classes entered into the enjoyments of the week, offered the most convincing proof that, in loyalty and love of horse flesh, "merrie England" still reigns supreme. Of the many rich prizes run for in the course of the meeting, the four of the greatest importance were carried off by members of the aristocracy.

The arrangements for next week comprehend Hampton Races, on Wednesday and Thursday; Newton, on Wednesday and two following days; Beverley and one or two others of minor importance.

The Henley Regatta, and Cricketing at Lord's, &c., will help to make up a week's amusement—in which all tastes may find means of gratification.

ASCOT RACES.—TUESDAY.

The Trial Stakes of 500 sovs each, with 50 added.			
Mr. Rolt's Collingwood, 6 yrs	(Flatman)	1	
Lord Exeter's Coscia, 5 yrs	(Bartholomew)	2	
The GOLD VASE, given by her Majesty, added to a Sweepstakes of 20 Sovs each.			
Lord Exeter's Glanvalon, 3 yrs, 7st 3lb ..	(Pettit)	1	
Mr. Padley's Cosack, 5 yrs, 9st 7lb	(Templeman)	2	
The ASCOT DERBY STAKES of 50 sovs each.			
Sir F. Peacock's Repletion	(F. Butler)	1	
Sir J. Hawley's Queensberry	(Templeman)	2	
Second year of the ASCOT TRIENNIAL FOAL STAKES, of 10 sovs each, with 100 added.			
Mr. Gordon's Do-the-Boys, late Borneo ..	(Flatman)	1	
Mr. A. Nichol's Nunykirk	(F. Butler)	2	
The ASCOT STAKES of 25 sovs each.			
Duke of Richmond's Vampire, 5 yrs 7st 9lb ..	(Flatman)	1	
Lord Clifden's Wanota, 5 yrs, 7st 12lb ..	(Sly)	2	
The WELCOME STAKES of 20 sovs each, with a bonus by independent subscriptions of 5 sovs each.			
Mr. Gully's Osterley, 8st 10lb	(A. Day)	1	
Lord Exeter's Odipus, 8st 7lb	(Flatman)	2	
WEDNESDAY.			
The CORONATION STAKES of 100 sovs each.			
Lord Chesterfield's Lady Evelyn (7lb extra) ..	(Flatman)	1	
Lord Exeter's Grace		2	
The FERNHILL STAKES, of 15 sovs each, 5 ft., with 50 added.			
Duke of Richmond's Officious, 2 yrs ..	(Kitchener)	1	
Duke of Rutland's Nina, 3 yrs		2	
The ROYAL HUNT CUP, value 200 sovs, by subscription of 10 sovs each, with 100 added.			
Mr. Rolt's Collingwood, 6 yrs, 9st 7lb	(F. Butler)	1	
Mr. Charlton's Kissaway, 3 yrs, 5st 2lb ..		2	
The WINDSOR TOWN PLATE of 35 sovs, with 15 added.			
Mr. Beauchamp's Whitstone, 4 yrs	(F. Butler)	1	
Mr. Carew's Philosopher, 5 yrs		2	

THURSDAY.

The Emperor's Vase of 500 sovs., and the other valuable stakes run for to-day, always draw together a superior field and a large assemblage—it was so to-day in a greater degree than usual; the horses were of the first class, the racing rarely excelled, and the visitors nearly double the number of Tuesday last, notwithstanding the attraction of the Queen's visit of course was equal. Her Majesty attended the course to-day in her usual state, and we think the reception she met with from the assembled thousands, who greeted her advent with vehement and boisterous cheers, must have convinced her she was perfectly safe without guards (and she had none) in the guardianship of her people.

The Royal cortege consisted of five open carriages, the celebrated *char-a-banc*, and a phaeton. The first carriage contained her Majesty, the Duchess of Kent, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Prince of Saxe-Weimar. The second, the Prince Consort, Prince George of Cambridge, the Duke of Wellington, and the Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz. The third carriage carried the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and her next sister, accompanied by Lady Lytton. In the fourth carriage were, as far as the crowded state of the stand would permit us to see, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Duchess of Sutherland, and two other Ladies of the Court. The other carriages were occupied by the Foreign Plenipotentiaries and their ladies, together with the Lords and Ladies of her Majesty's Court. The procession, both in coming and returning, which took place after the Palace Stakes, was attended with reiterated hurrahs. Her Majesty and the Prince appeared to enjoy the reception. There were present, also, the Marchioness of Douro, and the Countess of Wilton, and many other titled ladies; the Dukes of Rutland and Montrose; Marquises of Londonderry, Exeter, Worcester, Downshire; Earls of Eglinton, Oxford, Uxbridge, Stradbroke, and Wilton; Lords Stanley, Villiers, Maldstone, Manners, Grenville, and Baron Rothschild.

SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs each. Swinley Course.

Strongbow	1
Fire King	2
The VISITORS' PLATE.	
St. Antonio	1
Hornpipe	2
The EMPEROR'S PLATE of 500 sovs.	
Van Tromp	1
Chanticleer	2
Cosack	3
Collingwood	4
This was an extraordinary race—the Dutchman started at score (or nearly so), was never headed, and won by, as we thought, near a length.	
ST. JAMES'S PALACE STAKES.	
Uriel	1
Companion	2
The Royal party now left amidst the loudest cheers from the largest assemblage which, we think, her Majesty ever heard or saw on such an occasion.	
The NEW STAKES.	
Blarney	1
William the Conqueror	2
Won by a neck.	
FRIDAY.	
SWEETSTAKES of 50 sovs each, &c.	
Abbot of Meaux	Walked over
The FIRST CLASS WORKINGHAM STAKES.	
Slashing Alice	1
Circus	2
SWEETSTAKES of 20 sovs each, &c.	
Rybinski	1
Old Commodore	2
The GREAT WESTERN HANDICAP of 300 sovs.	
Repletion	1
St. Antonio	2
Second Class WORKINGHAM STAKES.	
Nina	1
Ploughboy	2
The MEMBERS' PLATE.	
Odipus	1
Kissaway	2

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—Some animated and rather heavy betting took place this afternoon on the Ascot events, at prices which differed in several respects from those previously quoted; upon which, however, as they are now numbered with the "has-beens," it would be useless to dwell.

DEBUT.

16 to 1 agst William the Conqueror (t)	33 to 1 agst Pilsford (t)	40 to 1 agst Cyprus (t)
25 to 1 — The Italian (t)	33 to 1 — Moulton (t)	40 to 1 — Compass (t)
	40 to 1 — Witchcraft (t)	40 to 1 — Knight of Avenel (t)

THE ETON REGATTA.

The 4th of June, the anniversary of the birthday of the late King George III., is always celebrated as a festival by the scholars of Eton College, who on that day make an aquatic pilgrimage to Surley Hall, about two miles and a half above Windsor Bridge, amid great "pomp and circumstance." The anniversary this year falling on Monday last, the eve of Ascot Races, Windsor and the neighbourhood were unusually full of members of the aristocracy; and a great many of the nobility had also arrived to witness the revels of the 2nd Life Guards. These circumstances, and the extreme fineness of the weather, had the effect of attracting a most brilliant assemblage to the Brocas on Monday evening. The crews mustered at half-past six o'clock, the banks of the river on both shores being thronged with many thousands of spectators.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, honoured the ceremony with their presence.

At seven o'clock the procession started for Surley Hall, preceded by the band of the Foot Guards in an eight-oared cutter.

On arriving at Surley, the various crews landed on the opposite shore, and partook of an elegant *déjeuner*, provided by her Majesty's confectioner.

At nine o'clock the boats returned to Windsor, and were received by the cheers of many thousands of spectators assembled on the wharfs and shores of the river.

A grand display of fireworks from the Little Eynot terminated the festivities of the evening.

The Royal party left the Brocas soon after the boats started for Surley.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

With the exception of one performance, "by desire," of *Norma* by Mdle. Parodi, whose noble impersonation of that character is fresh upon the reminiscence of every habitué last week has been devoted to "Don Giovanni." The first performance of this opera we passed over with but a scanty notice, under the pressure of time, promising to return to it on the present occasion. The subsequent performances of this immortal work have shown how important, in an artistic point of view, is the new interpretation adopted at Her Majesty's Theatre. New beauties have been evolved which hitherto had remained neglected, or at all events unseen, although latent. "Giovonetto che fate" and "Viva la libertà," passages of this great lyrical poem which hitherto had passed unnoticed, except by the silent critical musician, were encoored with enthusiasm. In the performance of the first of these *morceaux*, Alboni, as she rushes dancing on the stage, followed by the whole choral and choreographic corps, infuses such buoyancy—such an artless, genuine pastoral spirit in the expression, and in the delivery of the first notes, and is so well seconded by the voices and movements of her followers, that the whole audience was at once taken by storm. The adoption of the custom of the greatest and most ancient theatres, of bringing in historic *mimes* to mark the action, and to form in each situation a graphic *tableau*, told with startling effect in "Viva la libertà." The great singers and the chorus at once seized the intention of the poet and the composer thus marked, and the prelude to the masked orgie of *Don Giovanni* was executed with soul-stirring energy. "Batti, batti!" and "Vedrai carina," of course, afforded extraordinary triumphs to a voice which, like that of Alboni, overflows with melodic richness; but what was of most credit to her was that she earned the enthusiastic *encores* she received without adding one note—not even the slightest embellishment—to a music which all great artists should hold sacred, and but few have respected. The parts of *Donna Anna* and *Donna Elvira*, which Parodi and Mdle. Giuliani performed, so powerfully contributing towards the general effect, are devoid of separate interest, in spite of their characters—the feelings of the auditors being exclusively engaged in favour of *Don Giovanni*, *Zerlina*, and *Leporello*. The solos of these two heroines depict, in sombre colours, anxiety, regret, jealousy, and despair. It is only in the concerted pieces that they sing in those mellow, dulcet tones, favouring the attraction of female voices. Parodi, however, took her stand upon the dramatic resources of the character, and, in spite of the part of *Donna Anna* being written in so high a key, that, since Sontag performed it, the acute notes have been either a stumbling-block, or at best a painful difficulty to all those who have attempted it, she battled with the obstacles triumphantly, and even in the trio, where the register is the highest, she earned, most justly, an *encore*. Giuliani, in the unfavourable part of *Donna Elvira*, met with the same success which rewarded her good taste and good sense in taking a secondary part in "Norma." One of the sources of surprise was the result of the performance of so mercurial a character as that of *Don Giovanni* by Coletti; he had never been seen but in sombre characters; and whatever their admiration for his genius, many of the frequenters of Her Majesty's Theatre maintained his *Don Giovanni* must be beneath his other portraits for want of physical agility of voice and form, and particularly from the lugubrious turn of his talent. Great, therefore, was the astonishment to find him in "Don Giovanni" transformed into a dashing cavalier of high fashion, as lively and spirited in his movements as in his singing. The curt but beautiful portion of music allotted to Gardoni is as peculiarly adapted to his powers as the character is to his person. As to the *Leporello* of Lablache, his performance beggars all praise. With his giant form, and his obse rotundity of shape, the spectators feel less astonishment at the superhuman volume of sound he pours forth; but the mobility of his person, the exceeding agility of his voice, the inspiration and constant novelty of invention which he displays at each instant—now more than ever—are sources of delight and wonder. The *Zarabanda* of the lively Rosati, and of the elegant Marie Taglioni, which has brought forth a neglected *morceau* of Mozart, the picturesque scenery and rich *mise en scene*, have contributed, with what we have stated before, to entitle the present production of "Don Giovanni" to a marked and exalted place in the annals of lyrical art.

After a lapse of continued triumphs, the unrivalled basso, Lablache, will reappear for his benefit on Thursday, in the best of all his parts, that by which he began his extraordinary career in England—*Geronte*, in "Il Matrimonio Segreto." On this occasion the whole *troupe* of Her Majesty's Theatre will support him. Parodi will appear as *Carolina*; Alboni, as *Fidalgua*; Calzolari will enact the hero, and Lablache the *Conte*. A ballet divertissement will be produced, in which the whole ballet department will appear.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

After two postponements, owing to the indisposition of Marini, Meyerbeer's "Huguenots" was given for the second time this season, on Saturday. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, who honoured the theatre with their presence, commanded that the performance should commence at half past seven, instead of eight o'clock; and the opera, therefore, with the additional scene in the last act, introduced at the desire of the august amateurs, was over before half-past eleven. Our notice in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS on the 26th ult., of the revival of this work, having been unavoidably brief, it is necessary to point out the additions in the last act, from last season, at the Royal suggestion. In the ball-room scene, *Raoul* rushes in, and communicates, in agitated accents, to the guests assembled to celebrate the marriage of *Marguerite* with *Henri* of *Navarre*, the news of the commencement of the St. Bartholomew massacre of the Huguenots. The effect of this scene, with Marlo's energetic singing, is thus materially increased. The triad of martyrs, *Valentina*, *Raoul*, and *Marcel*, are not shot in the scene of the cemetery, but the death takes place in one of the streets of Paris, with a distant view of Notre Dame, admirably painted by Grieve; and it is *St. Bris*, *Valentina*'s father, who gives the order to fire on the Huguenot group; the historical incident of the entrance of *Marguerite* returning from the ball to the Louvre, is also a restoration from the original text, and completes the *tableau* terminating this stirring drama.

The sensation produced by the "Huguenots" is proved by the nightly attendances. On Tuesday last, as well as Saturday, the house was a complete overflow, Royal rank and fashion congregating in unprecedented numbers on both occasions. Independently of the historic interest of the story, with its beautiful episode of *Raoul*'s love for *Valentina*, and her unfortunate marriage with *Nevers*, the local colouring of the entire music is grand, truthful, and impressive. The chivalric character of the first scene—the romantic incident of *Marguerite*'s interview with *Raoul*—the dignified tone of the oath of reconciliation between Huguenots and Catholics—the outbreak of their rage, when *Raoul* spurns *Valentina*—the scenes of Parisian customs and manners, in the *Pré aux Clercs*—the disputes of soldiers and people—the splendid effect of the septor of the duel (a picture of courtesy and courage, finely developed)—the Queen's entrance to suppress the tumult, during *Nevers*' marriage procession with *Valentina*—the interview of the unhappy lovers, prior to the arrangements for the midnight massacre on the eve of St. Bartholomew—the majesty of the monkish chants to excite the multitude to deeds of horror—the terrible struggle of *Raoul* between love and duty, after hearing *Valentina*'s avowal of her love—the scene of the slaughter in the last act, form scenic and musical combinations which, from first to last, fix the attention, and produce the strongest emotions. The last two acts, indeed, are listened to with breathless excitement.

The execution of this opera displays the Royal Italian Opera resources to the highest advantage. It is, indeed, wonderful with what precision the complex and elaborate choral pieces and orchestral accompaniments are executed. The *début* of *Grisi* in *Valentina* has been one of her finest vocal and histrionic achievements. After a career of fifteen years it is indeed a surprising fact that this great artist has essayed a part in a style of music entirely new to her, and that her *Valentina* may be ranked with her *Norma* and *Lucrezia Borgia*. *Angri* plays the *Page* with great vivacity; her by-play is admirable, and she sings the two airs with much earnestness and piquancy, always securing an *encore* in the "No! no!" Massol's chivalric *Nevers*, and Tagliafico's musicianlike skill in *St. Bris*, leave nothing to be desired. Reeves is nightly encoored with enthusiasm in the "Rha ta plan" couplets: a great artist never loses with the public for accepting an inferior part, to add to the *ensemble*. The remainder of the cast is as last season; *Mario*, however, being in his best voice, is playing with renewed vigour: his duo with *Grisi* is surpassingly fine. *Marini* sang better on Tuesday, and is nearly recovered from his severe indisposition: his share of the duo, in the second act, with *Valentina*, is superbly sung.

On Thursday, for the extra night, Mozart's "Nozze di Figaro" was revived, with *Grisi* as *Susanna*; *Tamburini*, the *Count*; *Marini*, *Figaro*; *Lavia*, *Basilio*; *Polonini*, *Antonio*; and *Madame Bellini*, *Marcellina*. The novelties in the cast this season are—*Madame Persiani*, as the *Countess*; Mdle. *Angri*, as *Cherubino*, the *Page*; and *Tagliafico*, as *Bartolo*.

The house, notwithstanding the Ascot attractions, was well attended, and the opera went off very spiritedly, although indulgence was claimed for *Marini*, for hoarseness. The audience, out of consideration, did not *encore* "Non più andrai," which he sang finely. Mdle. *Angri*'s *Page* was acted with much naïveté, and she received a deserved *encore* for the "Vol che sapete," which she sang with great expression and refinement of style. *Madame Persiani*'s ladylike assumption of the *Countess* has always been popular with the Mozartians; she gave the "Foral amor" and "Dove sono," with exquisite taste and sentiment. The duo between her and *Grisi*, "Sull' aria," was demanded twice; it was the most finished exhibition of vocalisation ever heard. The duo between *Grisi* and *Tamburini*, "Crudel, perché," was also *encored*. *Tagliafico*'s "Vendetta" was nobly rendered. *Cimarosa*'s opera of "Il Matrimonio Segreto" is announced for *Persiani*'s benefit, on Thursday, June 21st, with *Grisi*, *Angri*, and *Persiani*, *Mario*, *Tamburini*, and *Ronconi*, in the cast.

GERMAN OPERA.

"Martha, or the Market of Richmond," an opera by Flotow, was produced on Monday night at Drury Lane Theatre. Like *Balfie*'s "Maid of Honour," the libretto is taken from the French ballet of "Lady Henriette." The German composer has scarcely been more happy in the musical treatment of the story than Mr. *Balfie*, whose "Maid of Honour" is, perhaps, his weakest production. Flotow's melodies are elegant, and in some instances catching, but there is a lack of that decisive originality of conception to constitute a great work. "Martha," like "Stradella," has enjoyed great popularity in Vienna, a sufficient proof of the low state of art in the Austrian capital, distinguished for having allowed Mozart and Beethoven to perish almost beggars. As regards the execution of "Martha" by the German *troupe*, it was generally satisfactory. The new basso, Herr *Formes*, is a most valuable acquisition. He is an admirable actor, and he has a wonderfully deep-toned musical organ, which, with a little more flexibility, would be unrivalled. Mdle. *Von Romani* and *Madame Marlow* played *Henriette* and *Nancy*, the two Maids of Honour; and Herr

Bahrt (a weak tenor) and *Formes* were the two yeomen. The latter was *encored* in the drinking-song in praise of English beer. "Don Juan" is announced, with *Pischek* as the *Don*, and *Formes Leporello*, and *Madame Spatzer* as *Donna Anna*. We shall notice this work in our next Number.

MUSIC.

CONCERTS.

One of the finest concerts of the season was given on Monday night at the Hanover Rooms, by Ernst, the celebrated violinist. The scheme was not over-crowded with pieces, but the selections were in the best taste, and the styles well contrasted. Bennett's overture, the "Wood Nymphs," and Weber's "Euryanthe," were steadily played by a band led by Willy, and conducted by Benedict. The vocalists were Mdle. Trefftz, Miss Dolby, Herr Damcke, and Herr Pischek. Charles Hallé performed Mendelssohn's pianoforteconcerto in G minor beautifully, and was much applauded. Ernst played his grand "Allergo Pathétique," his "Airs Hongrois," with Hallé; a concertante duo by Kullack and Eckert; a MS. "Rondo Papageno," and his "Pirata" fantasia. Ernst, in these five pieces, outdid himself; he was probably never in finer play, and he created an overwhelming sensation, being either *encored* or called for several times. The amazing difficulties conquered by Ernst surpassed any former attempts of executive daring. His "Papageno" rondo is quaint and fanciful, the themes being his own, only borrowing the *piccolo* effect from Mozart. The sentiment and passion with which Ernst invested the "Tu vedrai" were irresistibly touching, and had all the charm of the human voice.

M. Jullien is a musical speculator of great daring, and he has some very curious and original conceptions. The "Concerts Monstres," or "Congress Musical," he has begun at Exeter Hall, attempts to blend into one evening the specialties of the Philharmonic Society, of the London Wednesday Concerts, of the Promenade Concerts, of the Sacred Harmonic Societies, of the Operahouses, and of the open air military entertainments. To carry out these several specialties he has engaged an enormous array of talent, vocal and instrumental; and so large are his expenses, that he must rely on a large attendance of half-guinea visitors to repay him for his outlay. Judging from the impression produced by his first concert, this medley *mélange* of music, with such mixed sounds of military, brass, and ordinary stringed instruments, is not calculated to satisfy cultivated amateurs. With a locality sufficiently large to admit of the low prices, the entertainment would, no doubt, be a great success. David's melodramatic music in the "Desert"—the most curiously-compounded compilation of many composers' conceptions we have ever heard—in which what is good is not original, and what is original is bad—a work which has neither style nor school—which is but a miserable caricature of the classic ode symphony—the model being created by Beethoven—was the first part of the concert; Reeves singing the tenor songs nicely, and the mixed bands bringing forth the crashes of sound with ear-splitting effect. Mendelssohn's symphony in A minor wanted light and shade; the balance of sound by the increased orchestra had not been sufficiently consulted. It was listened to attentively; but it did not create half the effect such a grand work, with such means, ought to have produced. Before the symphony, Mr. Henry Smart played S. Bach's fugue in A minor; but the organ is not calculated for these solo displays, and it was listened to, despite the player's skill, impatiently. By the time the vocal gleanings began, the auditory became fatigued, and the Hall emptied rapidly until the latter part of the second act, when it was found requisite to omit the "Fidello" overture, and the greater portion of the promised fantasia on the themes from the "Huguenots"—the Conjunction and Benediction of the Poignards being alone scrubbed through. There was one consequence from the inordinate length of the scheme, which afflicted every true amateur greatly—Molière (one of the best of modern German composers, and one of the most elegant violinists of the age) was hissed in the adagio and rondo of his concerto. Miss Dolby, Madame Anna Thillon, Mdle. Jetty de Trefftz, Miss Poole, Herr Pischek, and Mr. Braham were the vocalists. Dreychock executed a pianoforte piece brilliantly, and was much applauded. The Hungarian vocalists sang two of their harmonized airs. The chorus of the Royal Italian Opera, accompanied by many horns, sang the "Huntsmen's Chorus" from "Der Freischütz," so well, that one of our contemporaries has made the mistake of giving the German singers the credit of the produced effect. The "National Anthem" was thundered forth with an accumulated climax of sound, conducted by Jullien with his well-known energetic pantomime, but the audience had thinned amazingly before the third part had been completed.

The performance of the two first parts of Haydn's "Creation," on Monday night, at Exeter Hall, by the London Sacred Harmonic Society, conducted by Mr. Surman, was creditable to the new institution. Mr. Blagrove was the leader of the band. Miss Catherine Hayes made her first appearance on this occasion as a singer of sacred music, and sang with taste and feeling: her two airs, "With verdure clad," and "On mighty pens," were chastely interpreted. Miss Byers, Messrs. Lawler and Lockey, were the other vocalists; the tenor being *encored* in the air, "In native worth." The second part of Haydn's "Seasons" followed, Miss C. Hayes, Miss Byers, Messrs. Benson and Phillips, being the chief singers.

At the third Concert of the Royal Academy of Music, on Wednesday, Mr. Cusins, a pupil of Sterndale Bennett, made a most favourable *début* in his execution of Mendelssohn's *rondo brillant* in B minor. Mr. Cusins has gained a King's scholarship, and is stated to be as accomplished a violinist as he is a pianist, being a pupil also of Sainton. Miss Yates made her first appearance as a pianiste, and played Mendelssohn's second orchestra; she evinced considerable talent. Mr. Horatio Chipp executed a violoncello fantasia, by Hausmann, very effectively. The selection of concerted pieces from "Il Flauto Magico," "La Clemenza di Tito," "Così fan tutti," of Mozart, and Mr. Lucas's MS. opera, the "Regicide," were creditably executed; the vocalists being the Misses Taylor, Bellamy, Salmon, Holroyd, Owen, Baxter, Rose, Messrs. Swift, Baylis, Cocking, and Wallworth. Mr. J. H. Pollard's MS. song, "Lonely I wander," sung by Miss Taylor, has merit. Sainton led the band, and Lucas conducted.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—Mr. Charles Braham's benefit at the Princess' Theatre, on Wednesday night, was well attended. He appeared in his father's famed part, *Count Belino* in the "Devil's Bridge," and in *Hawthorn* in the first act of "Love in a Village." The veteran Braham sang the "Bay of biseay," and was *encored*. Mdle. Nau, Misses Poole, Nelson, Pyne, Messent, Messrs. Borda and Weiss, sang a miscellaneous selection. A Mademoiselle Issannet has made her *début* in the "Crown Diamonds."—Mr. George Genge, a pleasing tenor singer, had a concert last Monday, at the Horns Tavern, Kennington.—Mr. Lee, a vocalist, gave a Concert at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday.—The second performance of Haydn's "Creation," by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, was given on Friday, with Mdle. Jetty Trefftz, Miss Birch, Messrs. Lockey and Phillips, as vocalists.—The seventh Philharmonic Concert will take place on Monday.—On Tuesday will be the sixth meeting of the Musical Union, at which Joachim, Piatti, Hallé, Hill, and Deloffre will play.—The twenty-sixth of the London Wednesday Concerts will take place on the 13th, at Exeter Hall, when Mendelssohn's music to "Antigone" will be performed.—On Wednesday morning will be the third concert at the Royal Italian Opera, with the entire choral and orchestral strength and all the principal singers.—The eighth meeting of the Amateur Musical Society will be on Wednesday.—On Thursday, Mr. Osborne, the composer and pianist, will give his concert; and Mr. E. Blagrove his Concertina Matinée.—On Friday, Madame Dulcken will give her annual concert, at Her Majesty's Theatre.—Jullien's second Concert Monstre, at Exeter Hall, will be on Friday evening.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

MANCHESTER, SHEFFIELD, AND LINCOLNSHIRE.—At the special meeting on the 6th inst., at Manchester, the Earl of Yarborough in the chair, the report of the committee of investigation was adopted. It urged a stricter collection of arrears, and a stringent economy in future disbursements; and alluded to the works in hand, especially the Grimsby Docks, the completion of which it declares absolutely necessary for the satisfactory working of the whole enterprise. The total cost of the line would, including the construction of these docks, amount to about £37,000 per mile. The present revenue averages about £3500 per week, subject to working expenses of 62 per cent. Two subjects were specially mentioned, which may increase public confidence in the management; one, the remarkable freedom from accidents on the section opened, attributable to the excellent supervision; and the other, the large and undiminished stake held by the chairman and co-directors in the company. The directors appeared to have retained the confidence of the proprietors, and thanks were specially voted to the committee of investigation for their report.

GRAVESEND AND ROCHESTER.—At the general meeting, on the 6th, in New Broad-street, no business of importance was transacted, beyond the announcement that £99,000 of outstanding claims had been paid off, the line having been purchased for £300,000 by the South-Eastern Company, to whose net-work of lines it now belongs.

GREAT NORTHERN.—A special meeting was held at the London Tavern on the 7th; Mr. J. B. Denison, M.P., in the chair; when it was resolved that 26,534 shares in arrears of calls should be forfeited, and in lieu of each forfeited share £2 10s. scrip shares of £12 10s. each should be issued at a discount of £2 10s., and bear a preference dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. in perpetuity—such shares to be given rateably to the holders of the A and B shares. It was also resolved that the 40,000 London and York Extension shares be reduced from £25 to £12 10s. shares; that 5s. should be added to the £12 10s. deposit for the interest of the last two years; and that the holders, on paying up those shares, should be entitled to a preference dividend of 5 per cent. in perpetuity. A resolution was then carried confirming an agreement entered into with the Eastern Counties for securing to the Great Northern the right to run over the Eastern Counties line between Wisbeach and Peterborough; and to enable the directors to compromise the lease entered into with the Boston, Stamford, and Birmingham, by giving them Royston and Hitchin shares in lieu of making the Peterborough and Wisbeach line of that company. Thanks being voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

On the 1st the CALEDONIAN opened their Clydesdale junction (a boon for excursionists), and their new station at Southside, in Glasgow.

The LILANELLY shareholders held their annual meeting on the 4th, but reporters were not admitted.

The Leeds shareholders in the MIDLAND company are resolved to have representation at the Board, and have met for this purpose expressly.

Two cast-iron girders for the line of the GREAT NORTHERN over Chesterfield Canal were removed last week from the Union Foundry, Bradford. Each measured more than 58 feet in length, by 4 feet in depth, and weighed nearly 16 tons.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

LONDON DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION.—The annual general meeting was held on Monday at the offices, Pall Mall, the Lord Bishop of London, President, in the chair, supported by Lord Ralstock and a numerous attendance of clergymen. The Right Rev. Prelate, in his address, alluded to the convulsions now agitating so many of the continental countries, which he attributed not to any want of education among the people, in the common acceptance of the word, but to a neglect of the principles of Christian instruction. The annual report (the tenth) stated that 37 young persons, 21 boys and 16 girls, had been carried through their probationary period in order to qualify them for situations as pupil teachers. The number of schools now in connexion with the board is 352. The subscriptions, &c. on account of the general fund amounted to £2361, and there remained in hand £72. On account of the Metropolis Schools Fund, £2421 had been received since its commencement; £50 had been received from her Majesty the Queen Dowager for the Schools, and the grants made by the board had reduced the fund to £1355.

THE JKWS' HOSPITAL.—The anniversary of this institution was celebrated on Monday evening, by a public dinner, given at the London Tavern, which was attended by about a hundred of the friends and supporters of this charity. The institution affords an asylum to the aged, and a place of refuge for the youthful, some of whom are there taught such trades as will render them useful members of society. According to the annual report, only 23 persons—10 aged and 13 young—were provided for at its commencement, in 1807; but, by the liberal support of a benevolent public, the institution, at this time, is dispensing its benefits to 87 inmates—12 aged persons, 55 boys, and twenty girls. Of the aged hitherto admitted, 64 have died, four have been dismissed, and one has retired, in consequence of having become possessed of means to support herself. Of the youths, three boys have died; 118 have completed their apprenticeships; 19 have been apprenticed out of the house; nine have been placed in advantageous situations, their indentures having been cancelled on the application of their friends; three have been withdrawn by their parents; and 42 dismissed. One girl has died; six have been dismissed; nine withdrawn by their friends; 92 articulated as servants; and 25 apprenticed to trades out of the house. The total number of inmates who have been received into the house is 463. During the evening the treasurer acknowledged various contributions in aid of the institution, which amounted, in the aggregate, to about £550.

THE COAL TRADE.—A few days since, a deputation from the body of the registered coal-whippers of the port of London had an interview with Messrs. Hugh Taylor and Bell, who represent the trade generally, for the purpose of stating that, in consequence of the reduction in the labour market, they had of their own accord come to the determination of lowering their charge for wharfing from 9d. to 8d. per ton. They said that, finding themselves and their families so improved, both physically and morally, under the operation of the act passed in their favour, they were most desirous of making its provisions as agreeable as possible to all persons engaged in the coal trade. Mr. Taylor replied that the manner in which they came voluntarily forward to make the concession required by the times exhibited both good sense and just feeling. It would tend to disarm opposition, and he was sure those engaged in the trade would meet the concession in a similar feeling by adhering to the provisions of the act.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—On Tuesday the proprietors of this Bank held their annual meeting, at the offices in St. Helen's-place, Bishopsgate-street. The report stated that the depressed state of trade in British North America had imposed on the directors the necessity of a restrictive policy. In spite of many difficulties, the commercial community of the North American colonies had generally maintained its credit in a manner highly honourable to the character of British merchants. The directors were determined to adhere only to the principles of legitimate banking, by which they could give more effectual support to the regular trade of the mercantile community. By reference to the accounts submitted to the meeting, it appeared that, notwithstanding the restricted state of the business of the past year, the directors had been enabled to make a small addition to the rest, after providing for the year's dividend at the rate of five per cent., besides setting aside a considerable sum sufficient to cover the estimate of probable loss. From the balance-sheet it appeared that the net profit for the year 1848, after deducting all current charges and providing for all bad and doubtful debts, was £51,800 7s. 1d.; the total of assets and liabilities was £1,907,961 2s. 4d.; the undivided net profit for the 30th December, 1848, was £57,302 18s. 7d. The report was adopted, and the directors retiring were re-elected.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The annual meeting of this Company was held on Wednesday, at the offices in Cornhill, John Cattle, Esq., in the chair; when a report was read by Mr. Fernie, the managing director, which stated that, although the new business had diminished during the year 1848, from the extreme caution exercised by the directors, the insurances effected in the present year exceeded those of several years preceding within the same period. There had been a considerable gain upon the whole of the policies closed in 1848, and the deaths within the same period had been fewer in number and smaller in amount than for several years past. A dividend at the rate of 7½ per cent. per annum was declared at the last meeting in answer to a question as to the amount of the gain. Mr. Fernie replied that it was £9390. Messrs. Thomas Benson and D. J. Thompson were re-elected directors, and the report was adopted.

GRAND JUNCTION CANAL.—The half-yearly meeting of the Grand Junction Canal Company was held on Tuesday, at which a dividend was declared at the rate of five per cent. per annum, leaving a surplus of £2303 to be carried to the reserve fund. The report stated that the experiment adopted by the company in becoming carriers, continued to yield satisfactory results. In July last they carried 2126 tons, the receipts in connexion with which were £2938, while in March the number of tons had risen to 9933, and the receipts to £11,087. It was also added that the competition between the North-Western Railway Company and the Canal had, "by recent arrangement, been confined within legitimate bounds."

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.—The anniversary festival of this excellent institution was held on Thursday evening, at the London Tavern, where about 200 noblemen and gentlemen assembled for the purpose of contributing towards the fund for the completion of the Hospital, a view of which appeared in No. 249 of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS. The Right Hon. Earl Manners took the chair, in place of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, who, in a letter to the noble chairman, expressed his regret at being unable to attend, and inclosed a contribution of £20. The Chairman, who, in the discharge of his duties, evinced considerable interest in the institution, was supported by the Chevalier Bunsen, the Earl of Walsgrave, Lord St. John, Lord Darnley, Sir D. Duckworth, General Sir J. Macdonald, R. Welby, Esq., and other distinguished gentlemen. During the evening, the secretary acknowledged subscriptions in aid of the charity to the large amount of £2,000, and a legacy of £300 from the late Mr. King, of Great St. Mary's-lane-street.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE CHARITY CHILDREN AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—This great meeting was held on Thursday, when every seat in the Cathedral was occupied. The arrangement differed somewhat from that in preceding years, the seats in the nave being raised above each other, instead of placed upon the floor, as heretofore. Divine service commenced at twelve o'clock, instead of three in the afternoon as formerly. Prayers were read by the Reverend Mr. Hall; and the sermon, a very eloquent discourse, was preached by the Lord Bishop of Oxford. The musical performances were very effective: the choir, consisting of the gentlemen of St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Chapel Royal, St. James's, and St. George's Chapel, Windsor. Messrs. Goss and Cooper presided at the organ; drums, Chipp, and trumpets, Harpers. The principal vocalists were Messrs. Lockey, Machin, and Horsley. Among the visitors we observed the Marquis of Westminster, President, and party; the Earl of Westmoreland; Lord and Lady Ruthven; the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, &c.

ASYLUM FOR AGED GOVERNESSES.—The Committee of Management of this excellent branch of the Governesses' Benevolent Society will hold a Fancy Sale in the grounds of the Asylum, at Kenilworth, on the occasion of the Institution being opened by his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, on Tuesday next. Many leading members of the aristocracy have consented to hold stalls, and from all that we have heard on the subject there is reason to believe that the building and endowment fund of the institution will derive great benefit from the sale. The terms of admission have been fixed at a moderate sum.

THE NATIONAL VACCINE ESTABLISHMENT.—The annual report furnished to the Secretary of the Home Department by the physicians and surgeons to this establishment states that "during the past year 174,991 charges of lymph have been distributed, and 11,790 children have been vaccinated by the surgeons appointed in the London districts. The board have likewise received returns of 88,482 cases vaccinated with lymph sent from the office of the National Vaccine Establishment. The board have furnished large supplies of lymph for the use of the army and navy, and they rejoice that it thus falls in the course of their duty to transmit the genuine lymph to a large body of men amongst whom it is almost impossible to keep up a self-supply. In consequence of an alarming prevalence of small-pox in several of the West India Islands, orders have been received from the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies that lymph should be forwarded by every packet in addition to the usual periodical supplies. The board have complied with these directions, and intelligence has been already transmitted to them of the great efficacy of the lymph so sent. A large supply of lymph has been forwarded to Aden and to Seinde. The board have thus the satisfaction of returning the real boon of protection to that quarter of the globe whence the palliative measure of inoculation was first introduced into Europe. Possessing that valuable boon, the board regret that, according to accounts they have lately received, the practice of inoculation should still partially prevail in one part of the United Kingdom, viz. Ireland. On the other hand it is encouraging to them to recur to the enlightened expressions used by the Lord Chief Justice of England on the necessity of the practice in this country, and they trust that the influence of so sound a judgment may be extended throughout Her Majesty's dominions." The report is dated the 26th of May.

THE LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.—A deputation of merchants and traders of London, headed by Mr. William Hawes, and accompanied by a deputation from Manchester, waited on Tuesday morning upon the Marquis of Lansdowne, at Lansdowne House, for the purpose of bringing under his notice the bill which is now before the House of Lords, on the subject of the amendment of the bankruptcy laws. Mr. W. Hawes explained that under the present system little or no protection was given to the trader against fraudulent debtors; and he pointed out the fact to his Lordship that not less than £5,000,000 annually were lost through debt fraudulently contracted. The object of the bill before the House of Lords was to remedy that frightful state of things, and the deputation had

waited upon his Lordship to request that he would take the bill into his most careful consideration. The object of the bill was not to benefit a class, but to confer a national benefit, inasmuch as by creating commercial confidence, and preventing the recurrence of panics, a stimulus would be given to trade, and consequently to the employment of labour. He reminded his Lordship that the £50,000,000 of which he had spoken were not a loss to the trading community, inasmuch as the merchants and traders charged it to the public in an increase on the price of their goods, and therefore it fell in the shape of a tax on the general public.—The Marquis of Lansdowne said he was fully alive to the importance of the subject; and he quite agreed with Mr. Hawes that it was highly desirable that such an object as the bill had in view should be carried out. He had already been in communication with the Lord Chancellor and Lord Brougham on the subject, and he promised to give the bill his most earnest consideration. —The deputation, on leaving Lansdowne House, proceeded to the residence of Lord Brougham, where they were received by his Lordship, who gave them a most favourable account as to the prospects of success for the bill. He expressed his determination of using every means in his power to secure its passing this session, and pointed out the probability of its being, and the reason why it should be, made a Government measure.

CURIOS RALIC.—Mr. Haywood, the Surveyor of the City Sewers' Commission, laid before the members, on Tuesday, the jaw-bone of an animal which was found in excavating for a sewer in Primrose-hill, Salisbury-square. He stated that he had shown it to Mr. Owen, the eminent professor of comparative anatomy, who pronounced it to be the lower jaw-bone of an extinct species of rhinoceros, and that the animal did not appear to have been full-grown, as the back teeth had not reached the edge of the jaw-bone, but lie in the cells. The specimen is said to be exceedingly rare and valuable, not more than two others being known in the kingdom. The species was pronounced by the professor to have been in existence many ages before the creation of Adam. The jaw-bone was found fourteen feet six inches beneath the surface, upon the top of the blue clay, and 500 feet from the present river wall, just above the level of high water mark. It is to be added to the antiquities in the City Museum, by order of the Court.

MANION-HOUSE.—On Wednesday the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress had the honour of entertaining at dinner, in the Egyptian-hall, Aldermen G. C. Hunter, Bart., M. Gibbs, Sir G. Carroll, Hooper, and Farncomb, Mr. Sheriff Goodhart, Mr. Under-Sheriff Shearman, Mr. Under-Sheriff Timplin, and their respective ladies, the deputies of several wards, and about one hundred members of the Court of Common Council, with their ladies. Covers were laid for two hundred.

STEAM-BOAT EXPLOSION AT LONDON-BRIDGE.—On Wednesday forenoon, shortly after ten o'clock, the numerous persons who were on board the *Waterman* steam-boat No. 8, were thrown into a state of excitement, in consequence of a body of steam and fire being seen to issue from the engine-room; and, at the same time, two men, the engineer and stoker, making their appearance at the top of the stairs, terribly scalded, and calling for assistance. There being no one in the engine-room to stop the machinery, it was found impossible to make the steamer fast, and she continued her course down the river as far as the Custom House Quay, where the captain ran her into the mud. A great number of watermen put off in their wherries, and succeeded in taking the whole of the passengers out of the vessel. The two men who were scalded were removed to St. Thomas's Hospital, when it was ascertained that the heads, faces, arms, and other parts of both parties were dreadfully injured. From examination, it was ascertained that one of the supply tubes had exploded, and the steam escaping therefrom had entered the furnace, and blown the hot cinders about. A similar explosion, by which two other men were scalded, took place on board the same vessel a short time since. The vessel was towed away to the company's works, to be repaired.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On Thursday morning, between 12 and 1 o'clock, two fires occurred in the metropolis, which, in the course of a few minutes, laid in ruins property of considerable value, besides being attended with a loss of life. The first happened at No. 7, St. James's-place, Hackney-road, in the occupation of Mr. Duncan, a solicitor. The fire continued its ravages unchecked until every room in the house was burned, and the furniture and apparel of the owners and servants reduced to ashes. A child of Mr. Duncan's perished in the flames.—About the same time another outbreak occurred near the Britannia Saloon, Hoxton Old Town, on the premises of Mr. Summers, boot-manufacturer, in the High-street. Notwithstanding the exertions of the firemen, it was not until almost every part of the building was destroyed, the valuable stock in trade reduced to ruins, and the furniture of the various occupiers burned, that the conflagration could be extinguished.

FIRE AND FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday morning a fire which, it is feared, will be attended with fatal consequences, broke out on the premises belonging to Mr. Claggett, an oil and Italian warehouseman, carrying on business at 152, Bermondsey-street, nearly opposite Bermondsey Old Church. The flames were first discovered by Miss Claggett, who aroused the other inmates, consisting of Mr. Charles Claggett, his brother, and the shop-boy. They all succeeded in reaching the second-floor front, and from the window called to the conductor of the fire-escape stationed at the corner of the churchyard. The machine was immediately raised to the second floor, the conductor mounted and placed Miss Claggett in the canvas bagging, when all of a sudden the carriage of the escape shot outwards, and struck the front wall with such force as to break the machine, when the bagging turned over, and the unfortunate occupant fell upon the stone flags beneath, a distance of nearly thirty feet. The poor creature fell upon her head with such violence as to fracture her skull. Fanner, the escape man, to save his own life, was also obliged to jump from the second floor, and in so doing he was severely hurt. Mr. Thomas Claggett succeeded in getting out of one of the back windows, and forcing his body through a glass skylight, but in so doing he was frightfully cut over the body, and when he reached the street his night clothes were covered with blood. The conductor again raised his escape in front of the house, and, having ascended the same, he succeeded in saving the lives of the other two persons, viz. Mr. Charles Claggett and the shop-boy. The engines of the parish, London Brigade, and West of England Company quickly attended, but the parish engineer had barely entered the shop with the branch of his engine, when an explosion of gunpowder took place, which blew the front of the shop out, but fortunately the engineer escaped uninjured. Owing to the combined exertions of all parties, the fire was extinguished before it had extended beyond the shop. Miss Claggett was removed to Guy's Hospital in a hopeless state.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, JUNE 2.—During the past week were registered, births, 1351; deaths, 895, within the limits of the London district. The number of deaths exhibits a satisfactory decrease of 68 on the weekly average of five springs. The mortality from the zymotic or epidemic class of diseases continues to fall, the deaths in last week having been 209—those in the preceding week 233; the average is 198. Scarlatina has now declined rather below the average, and numbers 29 fatal cases. Typhus, which, during the previous 13 weeks, ranged from 33 to 45, was fatal in the last week to only 23, an unusually small number for this disease, and hardly exceeding one-half of the average. Smallpox, also, is fatal to few at the present time; the weekly numbers during last month were respectively 12, 6, 8, 6, whilst the average is 21. The mortality from hooping-cough declines, though it is still above the average. Measles appears on the increase, and has last week nearly doubled the average, which is about 21 deaths. The deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery were 19; the average of the season is 14. Cholera is slightly increasing, for though one death forms the weekly average of former springs, the fatal cases registered during the last four weeks have been 3, 1, 5, 0. Of the last nine cases, five occurred in public institutions—namely, two in the *Dreadnought* hospital-ship, one in the Houlborn Union, one in the Chelsea Union, and another in the Battersea Workhouse. Both bronchitis and pneumonia grow less fatal, though the former is still above the average, while the latter is below it.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The mean reading of the barometer was above 30 in. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The mean of the week was 29.978. The thermometer was highest on Thursday, when it reached 74.9 degrees; the mean of the same day was 64.3 degrees. The mean of the week was 60.3 degrees. On Thursday the mean temperature was higher than the average of the same day in seven years, by 7.4 degrees, though it was below it on the first two days of the week. The mean of the week exceeded the average by 1.3.

THE AUSTRIAN LEGATION.—The Countess Colloredo will open the saloons of Chandos House with a grand ball, on Tuesday, the 26th instant.

THE HANOVERIAN LEGATION.—His Excellency Count Kielmansegge gave a grand entertainment on Tuesday, at the residence of the Legation, in Grosvenor-place, in celebration of the birthday of the King of Hanover. The Duke of Cambridge and Prince George, and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Strelitz, honoured his Excellency with their presence.

DESTRUCTIVE HAIL-STORM.—At an early hour on Monday Brighton was visited by one of the most furious and destructive hail-storms which has occurred in that vicinity for some time. It began about a quarter past six o'clock, and lasted half an hour. The hailstones were very large, being, in fact, pieces of hard ice, with jagged sharp edges. In the western part of the town the storm was furious indeed, and, as might be expected from the large size of the stones, great damage was done to windows, especially skylights and conservatories. The conservatories and green-houses belonging to Baron Goldsmid, at the Wick, were broken almost to pieces, some thousands of panes of glass being smashed. The conservatories and green-houses of his neighbour, Bright Smith, Esq., were likewise much injured, about 400 panes of glass being broken; and those of several others received similar damage. Skylights innumerable were smashed.

CHANNEL ISLANDS AND ISLE OF MAN NEWSPAPERS.—GENERAL POST OFFICE, May, 1849.—Henceforward, the under-mentioned newspapers printed and published in the Channel Islands and in the Isle of Man, respectively, may be transmitted through the post from these Islands to Great Britain and Ireland on prepayment of a postage of one penny; but this privilege is not to be extended to those if posted in Great Britain or Ireland for circulation within the United Kingdom.—*British Press, Jersey and Guernsey News, Manx Herald and Douglas's Isle of Man Observer, Jersey News, Guernsey News, Manx Standard, Isle of Man Times, Star, and Comet.* These newspapers, if sent by post, may be sent by post to the colonies and foreign parts, subject to the same conditions as those which apply to newspapers sent by post, and forwarded from Great Britain and Ireland. The extra postage paid in Great Britain on 2s. 6d. 1849, in regard to the transmission by post of newspapers from the above-mentioned islands, printed and published in the Channel Islands or in the Isle of Man, are still in force, it being, however, understood that some of the newspapers are printed in these islands in the French or in the Spanish language, and may be affected by the restrictions imposed in this notice, or by the restrictions, No. 13, above mentioned, but shall continue to enjoy all the privileges, so far as their transmission by post is concerned, which they formerly possessed.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

On Saturday last Prince Albert laid the first stone, with the usual formalities, of an additional wing to the Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, for decayed members of their trade, in the Old Kent-road. The funds for the new building were principally contributed by the ladies connected with the Society of Licensed Victuallers, and it is therefore called the "Lady's Wing."

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress have issued cards for a grand banquet in the Egyptian Hall, on Wednesday, the 27th instant, to Sir Robert and Lady Peel, and a distinguished circle of the nobility.

The Lords of the Treasury having authorised a considerable reduction of the rate upon international letters between this country and France upon reciprocal terms, an alteration in that respect may shortly be expected.

The Queen Dowager has forwarded to the Rev. W. Crump £10 towards the fund of the National and Infant Schools of Rowley Regis. On Tuesday (1st week) a bazaar, in aid of these schools, was held in a field adjoining the vicarage, the proceeds of which amounted to £111 13s. 6d.

The foundation stone of Queen Mary's Grammar School, at Walsall, was laid by the Bishop of Lichfield, with the usual ceremonies, on Wednesday (last week). After the ceremony his Lordship delivered an impressive address to the assemblage upon the subject of education. The process ion returned to a large room near the library, where a sumptuous luncheon was served up. The boys were also regaled with hot roast beef and plum-pudding at the library.

At a recent meeting of the tenantry of his Grace the Duke of Leinster, held in Athy, county of Kildare, Mr. Henry Crosbie (the assistant agent of his Grace, was presented with a service of plate and an address expressive of the sentiments they entertained towards him.

The Uxbridge Yeomanry Cavalry, under the command of Captain De Burgh, met for five days' training and exercise on the 29th ult., finishing with a review on Saturday last; after which an excellent dinner was given to the men by the officers. Cornet Sleight, who has just joined, and was formerly in her Majesty's 77th Regiment, passed a high compliment on the corps for its generally efficiency.

A parliamentary return, printed on the motion of Colonel Sibthorp, shows that in the year 1848 insurances against fire were effected on farming stock in country offices to the extent of £23,873,895. Insurances were also effected in town offices on the same description of property to the extent of upwards of £30,000,000. The insurances effected in Ireland on farming stock during the same period did not amount to more than £800,000. In Scotland the sums insured on farming stock in the same year amounted to £4,138,528.

The manner in which the war between the Cossack hordes of Russia and the Hungarians is likely to be carried on in this age of civilization is shown by what has lately occurred in the town of Kaschau. The Russians having entered, and taken up their position in the square, a fire was opened upon them from every window; upon which they immediately retired, surrounded the city with cannon, set fire to it at the four corners, and cut down all who attempted to make their escape!!!

Between 40,000 and 50,000 mackerel were caught by seine nets close in shore at Brighton during the past week, a circumstance which has not before occurred for seventeen years. Some of the boats earned nearly £100 each; the greater part of the fish, which were very fine, fetched 15s or 16s per hundred, and were despatched to London. They were retailed in Brighton streets at six or eight a shilling. Similar catches have been made all along the Sussex coast.

By a decree of the 26th ult., the Triumvirs of Rome have confiscated all the possessions of the King of Naples lying within the Roman territory. They are to be sold, and the produce applied to indemnify the persons who have suffered from the Neapolitan invasion.

At the Paris races in the Champ de Mars, on Sunday last, Mr. Carter, an Englishman, sustained the national honour by winning the Trial Stakes with his horse Experience.

The receipts at the Custom-house at Havre during the last month amounted to 2,543,078*fr.*, being an increase of 1,226,118*fr.* upon the receipts in May, 1848. The increase in April last upon the receipts of April, 1848, in the same Custom-house, was 1,600,619*fr.*, so that the last two months have exceeded the receipts of the two corresponding months of 1848 by 2,826,737*fr.*

Mr. James Shore's committee having determined to pay all costs in the cause between him and the Bishop of Exeter, Mr. Shore was liberated on Wednesday week. He returned to Totnes by an evening train, and preached at Bridge-town on Sunday.

Two fine samples of wheat in the ear were exhibited at Canterbury on Saturday. The reports from the country are generally favourable. There is promise of a large crop, and, with few exceptions, in every description of grain, throughout Kent.

Mr. Gibbons, superintendent of the police, Plymouth, having received information last week from a gentleman named Pritchard, a commercial traveller, from Manchester, that there was an individual on board the *Cuspar*, emigrant vessel, bound for Adelaide, who had contracted very large debts without having liquidated them, and was indebted to Mr. Pritchard £100, it being doubtful whether a writ to seize the offender could arrive before the ship sailed, went on board and apprehended the man upon the charge of obtaining the amount upon false pretences. This ruse had a successful effect, the man immediately producing the £100, and handing it over to Mr. Pritchard. He was then discharged.

The officers and constables of the B division of the Dublin police have subscribed the sum of £20 6s. 6d. for the relief of the poor in the south and west of Ireland.

This week, in consequence of the continuance of fine weather and the forward state of the grass, the farmers in the neighbourhood of Edmonton, Tottenham, Enfield, and other places near the metropolis, commenced the season of hay-making. The crops, it is expected, will be more than an average yield.

The Marquis of Anglesey, Master-general of the Ordnance, reviewed the artillery corps stationed in Woolwich, on the common there, on Monday last.

Advices from Buenos Ayres state that Mr. Southern had despatched letters to the British Government with the result of his negotiations with the Republic, which it was understood were of a satisfactory tenor.

The thermometer stood in Paris, on Monday morning, at six o'clock, at 21 4-10ths centigrade (70½ Fahrenheit); at twelve o'clock it rose to 30 1-10th centigrade (86 Fahrenheit); and at two o'clock to 32 2-10ths centigrade (90½ Fahrenheit).

Mr. Wm. Nixon, of Union Hall, near Newcastle, exhibited last week, at Gateshead, a specimen of black barley already in the ear, of which he has now a crop growing on his farm.

The accounts from Panama mention a belief that the Congress at Bogota would abolish the customs department, and make that city a free port. A tax on stores or warehouses and licenses for trade would be substituted.

On Friday week a fine sturgeon was caught in the Medway, at a place called Bream Hole, near Shodand, between Maidstone and Rochester. The fish, a fine baited specimen of its species, was brought to the mayor of Rochester, and was by his orders packed in ice, and forwarded to her Majesty on Saturday morning. It measured 6 feet 11 inches in length, and 2 feet 9 inches in circumference.

The annual examination of the wards of the Adult Orphan Institution took place on Saturday last, at the establishment in the Regent's Park, and was honoured with the presence of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent. The meeting was also attended by the Duchess of Northumberland, the Countess Manners, Lady Colchester, &c. The Bishop of London, who conducted the examination, was pleased to express himself highly satisfied therewith; after which prizes were presented to the wards according to their merit.

Baths and washhouses for the working classes were opened last week with great rejoicings at Macclesfield.

The Matlock Railway, running from the Ambergate station of the Midland Railway, was opened on the 1st.

An interesting ramble is contemplated towards the end of the month by a party of Newcastle antiquarians; they suppose to make a complete survey of the Roman Wall, to commence at Wallsend and terminate at Corbridge and Distone, devoting seven days to the examination. Several archaeologists from the south are expected to accompany them in this expedition.

Some cases of cholera having appeared at the Château d'Amboise, among the suite of Abd-el-Kader, the Minister of War (France) has given orders to Dr. Alquié, Inspector-general and member of the Board of Health for the army, to repair immediately to the *château*, and have every possible care taken of the sick Arabs.

Stephen Henry Sullivan, Esq., now Secretary of Legation at Munich, is appointed Consul-General and *Chargé d'Affaires* in Chili, in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel Walpole, retired. Mr. Bonar, now paid *attache* at Dresden, will succeed Mr. Sullivan as Secretary of Legation at Munich. Mr. J. A. Chase is appointed stipendiary magistrate in the Bahamas.

The Duke of Northumberland has made a donation of £100 to the United Service Institution, towards the expenses of erecting a lecture theatre.

A short time since, a brig, called the *Carleton*, was put up for public sale at the London Docks, and purchased by Mr. Scott, a chain-lighterman residing at Wapping, for the sum of £750. The vessel put to sea under Captain Bacon, who had become part owner, and at Harlepool, whilst undergoing some repairs at the interior part of the bulkhead, sixteen thousand Spanish dollars were found secreted in a place purposely hollowed out for the reception of the deposit. The vessel was originally engaged in the slave-trade off the coast of Guinea, and the treasure so curiously discovered was probably the ill-gotten gain of some of the wretches engaged in that abominable traffic.

The result of Mr. Salaman's concert last week for the benefit of the Metropolitan Convalescent Asylum was most successful. One donation was sent anonymously of £500. The Marquis of Westminster forwarded £25 for tickets, and a number of other persons sent contributions, the total amount being £1,250 10s. 6d.

Plagues of locusts are now beginning to spread in Belgium. Several Belgian nobles, belonging to the better class of inhabitants, are preparing to leave in the course of July, or August for the western part of the United States, where they expect to find a more fertile and less pestiferous soil.

The report issued from the annual general court of the Orphan Asylum Society states that ten orphans have recently been elected, making a total of 110 now in the asylum, namely, 70 boys and 40 girls, the whole of whom are maintained, clothed, and educated. From the death of subscribers and other causes, the annual receipts have fallen from £1000 to less than £1000, seriously crippling the effectiveness of the charity.



THE LATE COUNTESS OF BLESSINGTON.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED. **MARGUERITE, COUNTESS OF BLESSINGTON.**



We announce, with regret, the death of this eminent literary peeress. The following details of her Ladyship's biography were communicated by herself a year or two before her death, and are here given in the very words the Countess used:—"Lady Blessington, the second daughter of Edmund Power, Esq., of Curraheen, and Clonsa, in the county of Waterford, a Magistrate for the counties of Tipperary and Waterford, who rendered great service to the Government during the Rebellion, descended, by the paternal as well as maternal side, from two very ancient families:

* Lady Blessington's mother was Ellen, daughter of Edmund Sheehy, Esq.

the Powers were of French origin, the name, when they settled in Ireland, having been De la Poer; and the Sheehys are of the old Milesian stock, originally possessed of large estates, and very highly connected.

"By Ellen Sheehy, his wife, Edmund Power, Esq., of Curraheen, had seven children, three sons and four daughters: the former were Michael Power, a Captain in the army, who died in the West Indies in 1809; 2. Edmund, who died in childhood; and 3. Robert, late a Captain in the 20th Regiment. The daughters were, 1. Anne, who did not survive infancy; 2. MARGUERITE, Countess of Blessington; 3. Ellen, married, first in 1810, to John Home Purvis, Esq., son of Sir Alexander Purvis, Bart.; and, secondly, in 1828, to the Right Hon. C. Manners Sutton, afterwards Viscount Canterbury; she and her husband both died in 1845; and, 4th, Mary Anne, married in 1832 to the Count de St. Marsault."

Marguerite, Countess of Blessington, born 1st September, 1789, married, first, 8th March, 1804, Maurice Baggenal Farmer, Esq., of Poplar Hall, and Laurel Grove, co. Kildare, then a Captain in the 47th Regiment; and, secondly, 16th February, 1818, Charles John Earl of Blessington, who died in Paris, 25th May, 1829. The following is a list of her Ladyship's principal works, but she wrote besides several illustrated books of poetry, which are not included:—"The Magic Lantern," "Sketches and Fragments," "Tour in the Netherlands," "Conversations with Lord Byron," "The Kepealers," "The Two Friends," "The Victims of Society," "The Idler in France," "The Idler in Italy," "The Governess," "Confessions of an Elderly Lady," "Confessions of an Elderly Gentleman," "Desultory Thoughts," "The Belle of a Season," "Lottery of Life," "Meredith," "Strathern," "Memoirs of a Femme de Chambre."

Lady Blessington's husband, Charles John Gardiner, second Viscount Mountjoy, and first Earl of Blessington, in the peerage of Ireland, was born on the 19th July, 1782, and died the 25th May, 1829, without male issue, when his honours became extinct. His union with the late Lady Blessington was his second marriage. His first wife was Mary Campbell, widow of Major William Browne, by whom his Lordship left issue a daughter, the Lady Harriet Anne Frances, who was married, on the 4th Dec., 1827, to Count Alfred D'Oursay, of fashionable and artistic celebrity.

The Countess of Blessington has been for years so prominent in the circles of fashion and literature, that her biography is familiar to all. She has had great and continued popularity as a poet, a novelist, and an essayist. Her life has passed in the society of the most eminent in intellect and rank; her beauty, her taste, and her fascinating manners have been the theme of a hundred writers, and the talk of Europe. After a sojourn of many years in London the Countess lately retired to the Continent. The sale of the furniture and property in her splendid residence in Kensington-Gore is but just concluded, and is, of course, in the knowledge of every one. Her Ladyship had fixed her new abode in Paris, and had taken a house there in the Rue du Cerle. Her rank, the literary fame, and her friendship with the President of the Republic gave the promise of much flattering distinction and social pleasure in the Parisian world of fashion, when the hand of death fell with awful suddenness upon her. She was seized with apoplexy on the morning of the 4th instant, and expired in the afternoon of the same day, in the arms of M. Simon, her homoeopathic medical attendant.

SIR EDWARD THOMASON.

SIR EDWARD died on the 29th ult., at his residence in Warwick, in the 80th year of his age, deservedly and deeply lamented. He was an eminent medallist and manufacturer of bronzes at Birmingham, and received the honour of knighthood, 27th June, 1832, for being instrumental in improving the Arts and Manufactures of England. He was likewise a knight of the Red Eagle of Prussia, of Francis I. of Merit, of the Order of the Lion of the Netherlands, of Isabel the Catholic of Spain, of the Sun and Lion of Persia, &c., and acted for upwards of 20 years as Vice-Consul for seven of the Continental powers. His name is known in literature by his "Autobiography during half a century."

Sir Edward was married to a daughter of Samuel Glover, Esq., of Abercarne.

JOHN FIELDEN, ESQ.

This eminent manufacturer made his own way to wealth and fame. He began his career of success by working at the loom with his own hands: his intelligence, industry, and perseverance soon made him a master and a man of fortune. He also became, in 1832, member for Oldham, and advocated the cause of ultra-reform in Parliament. He, however, particularly distinguished himself in his support of measures tending to ameliorate the condition of the manufacturing districts. His exertions were unceasing in regard to the memorable Ten Hours Bill, and he had the gratification of seeing, long before his death, the realisation of much that he sought for. In private life, as in public, Mr. Fielden was an amiable and benevolent man; and his loss is generally deplored. His death occurred at Todmorden, on the 28th ultimo. Mr. Fielden was member for Oldham for several years, until his recent retirement from Parliamentary life. It is, we hear, the intention of his friends and admirers to raise a monument to him in Westminster Abbey.

JOSEPH HENRY BLAKE, THIRD LORD WALLSCOURT.



At the period of his decease his Lordship had nearly completed his 52d year, having been born 2d June, 1797. He succeeded to the title as third baron at the decease of his cousin, in 1816; and married, in 1822, Elizabeth, only daughter of William Lock, Esq., of Norbury Park, Surrey, by whom he leaves issue a son—Erroll Augustus, the present Peer, born in August, 1841—and two daughters.

The late Lord Walscourt entered the army at a very early age, and was present at the battle of New Orleans; he also served a short time in the Peninsula. Although somewhat peculiar in his habits and appearance, his Lordship was an accomplished gentleman, gifted with great acuteness of intellect and fine feelings of philanthropy. Lord Walscourt died at Paris, after only a few hours' illness, of Asiatic cholera, on the 27th ult.

The founder of the family of Blake, in Ireland, was Richard Blake, a soldier of fortune, who accompanied Prince John to that kingdom in 1185; and, having obtained considerable grants of land in the county of Galway, settled there. Among the more immediate ancestors of the Lords Walscourt, the most distinguished was the Right Hon. Sir Richard Blake, of Ardry, one of the Privy Council in the reign of Charles I., Knight of the Shire for Galway in 1639, and Speaker of the Supreme Council of Kilkenny in 1648. The ladies of the Ardry family were long celebrated for their beauty; and, in our own times, the hereditary loveliness of the race was remarkably seen in the late Countesses of Erroll and Cadogan—both aunts of the nobleman whose death we record.

GENERAL CHARLETON.

This gallant General was one of the oldest officers in our army: he entered the service as far back as 1772, and for the first forty years of his career he was very actively employed in the Artillery. The name of Thomas Charlton appears gazetted through every grade up to that of General, which this veteran leader attained the 10th January, 1837. General Charlton died on the 2nd instant, at his residence in Bath, in the 94th year of his age.

MADAME DORVAL.

This lady was the Mrs. Siddons of the modern French stage. While Mdle. Rachel distinguished herself in the impersonation of classic heroines, Madame Dorval embodied with brilliant effect the female creations of Victor Hugo, A. Dumas, and Alfred de Vigny. Her most famous character was *Marie Jeanne*. Madame Dorval died a few days ago in Paris, aged 51. She never performed in England.

THE JEPHSON STATUE AND TEMPLE, AT LEAMINGTON.

THE prominent association of Dr. Henry Jephson with the prosperity of Leamington, is familiar to every frequenter of the Spa and its picturesque locality. Some time since it was resolved to commemorate this individual contribution to the success of the town by some public testimonial; and the erection of a statue of Dr. Jephson, to be placed in a temple of suitable design, was accordingly selected as the most appropriate tribute—the cost to be defrayed by public subscription.



STATUE OF DR. JEPHSON, BY HOLLINS.

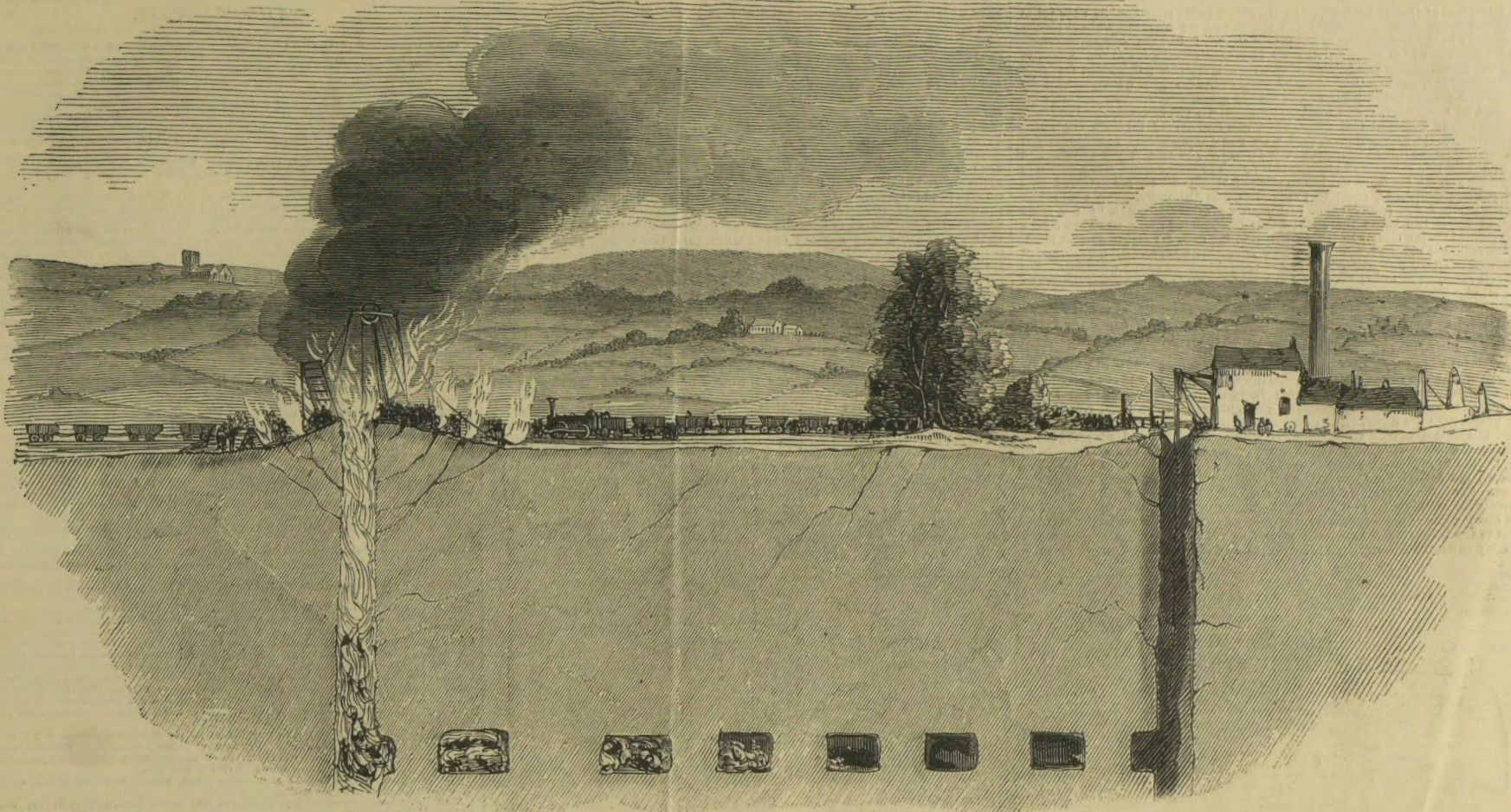
The statue has been executed by Mr. Peter Hollins, and was exhibited, in an unfinished state, last year, at the Royal Academy. The model was taken about three years since; and the likeness of the worthy physician is considered to be very truthful. Its location was decided to be in a temple of classic design, erected in the Jephson Gardens, at Leamington; and Monday, the 28th ult., was appointed for the inauguration—which took place on that day, with great éclat, to the heightening of which the fine weather largely contributed.

At noon the covering of the statue was formally removed in the temple, and it was exhibited throughout the day to great numbers of persons, in whose minds the result of the artist's labours appeared to excite unqualified admiration. At three o'clock Mr. Sergeant Adams, from the steps of the temple, delivered an address to a considerable concourse of persons, whom he congratulated upon the issue of the movement, which originated in the desire to do honour to Dr. Jephson. At six o'clock in the evening a party of about one hundred noblemen and gentlemen celebrated the event by dining together at the Regent Hotel. The chair was very ably filled by Mr. Sergeant Adams, supported by Lord Somerville and Lord Guernsey. A band of music was in attendance, and the proceedings of the evening were enlivened by the amateur vocal efforts of several gentlemen of the party. After the usual loyal and general toasts had been fittingly given and heartily received, the health of Dr. Jephson was drunk with great enthusiasm, and the company received with evident pleasure an announcement made by the chairman, that the Doctor's London medical adviser regarded as probable such an improvement of the general health of his eminent patient as would lead to a partial restoration of sight.

Independently of the large influx of visitors attracted to the Spa by the splendid public amusements already announced for the summer season, consisting of horticultural exhibitions, archery, cricket matches, musical entertainments, &c., the above ceremony drew together a large concourse of Dr. Jephson's admirers from various parts of the kingdom.



TEMPLE ERRECTED IN HONOUR OF DR. JEPHSON, AT LEAMINGTON.



COAL-MINE ON FIRE AT ASTLEY, NEAR MANCHESTER.

PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAITS.

MR. BERNAL OSBORNE.

It is not often that one who has passed his early manhood amid the aristocratic influences which encompass a military officer's life in the British army, is subsequently found in the arena of politics, eagerly combatting in favour of the most advanced ideas of democratic Liberalism. Exceptions of the kind, however, do present themselves at times; and without staying to inquire whether the anomaly springs from any peculiarly full development in the temperament of the man, of the "spirit of contradiction," or from the overpowering force of strong convictions, suffice it to indicate the course of the hon. and gallant member for Middlesex as presenting a most distinguished instance of political independence of that rare character.



MR. B. OSBORNE, M.P. FOR MIDDLESEX.

The hon. gentleman is the son of Mr. Ralph Bernal, M.P. for Rochester, who has for so many years past, whenever the Whigs have been in office, discharged the important functions in the House of Commons of Chairman of Committees of the whole House on Government measures. He assumed the name of Osborne on his marriage, in 1844, with Catherine Isabella, only child and heiress of Sir Thomas Osborne, Bart., a large landed proprietor in the counties of Waterford and Tipperary, in Ireland. Previously, he was known in the House as Captain Bernal. He sat for the borough of Wycombe at that period, and was by no means a frequent speaker in debate; but, whenever he did address the House, it was always to the purpose, in a strain of common-sense, and with a felicitous earnestness of manner that commanded attention—his language being at times animated by a spirit of biting sarcasm against his opponents, and always evincing an increasing penchant towards ultra-Liberalism; until at length the *ex-départ* Aide-de-Camp of the Marquis of Normanby stood forth one of the most prominent in the ranks of the Radical members of the House. Accordingly, at the general elections in 1847, when the Middlesex Reformers resolved on having their county represented by two liberals, Mr. Osborne appeared to them the fittest man to represent their views, in conjunction with Lord Robert Grosvenor; and, after a smart contest, they succeeded in returning their man, and ousting the Conservative candidate, Colonel Thomas Wood, by a considerable majority.

Since then Mr. Osborne has advanced rapidly on the path upon which he had already entered, being a constant speaker on the leading topics of the day. When the House resolves itself into Committee of Supply, there are few items among the estimates for the public expenditure in which an abuse can be detected, that escape his cavilling attention. In general debates, it is not his usage to "come out" with a set prepared speech, so much as to rise with all the *impromptu* of a practised debater, and boldly attack the positions of some one or two of the leading previous speakers on the other side, while, at the same time, he urges his own views with forcible argument, with apt, and often quaint, illustration, and with a readiness of manner and matter which tells effectively against his opponents. His speech on Tuesday night in support of Mr. Hume's motion for Parliamentary Reform was an instance of that mode of address, though by no means so clever as many previous efforts of the same kind. Following Sir George Grey and Lord John Russell, he assailed what he regarded as their abandonment of their former liberal principles. He said, "It could not have escaped the observation of the House, and would not of the people, that the opposition to the motion had come, with one exception, not

from the hereditary enemies of reform on the other side, but from the gentlemen who now occupied the Treasury bench. They had climbed into power on the credit of what had been done by the hon. member for Montrose and those who had been stigmatised as men of narrow and confined minds. With respect to the speech of the Secretary for the Home Department, there had, since the days of Julian the Apostate, been no such conversion recorded in history. The right hon. gentleman voted for the ballot in 1842; but in 1849, when he was reminded of his vote, he said he was so convinced by the arguments against that measure that he voted against it. Thus history told them that Julian put on the garb of a monk whilst he practised paganism, but when he arrived at the supreme power he laughed at and persecuted Christianity. The last speech they had heard was a melancholy exhibition. What were the arguments of the noble Lord? He merely appealed to the conservative fears of the old women of this country. He said that the National Debt was to be attacked. What did the noble Lord say himself respecting the National Debt in his famous work on the Constitution. In that book he said that the Constitution was never fixed; but now he said it was a fixed and venerable Constitution. He stated that the National Debt had been the great cause of the taxation of the country; and, therefore, that if despotism were to be established in England it must begin by destroying the National Debt, the people, possibly, being willing to part with their liberties in exchange for a diminished pressure of taxation. How did such views tally with those now expressed by the noble Lord? The attempt to terrify those sensitive persons the fundholders was a 'weak invention of the enemy.' The Whig party were notoriously more aristocratic at all times, more anti-liberal in reality than those who avowedly opposed liberal principles. They might, for a purpose, have given station and power to those who rose from the people; but those whom they so patronised, in the words of Swift,

Forget the dunghill where they grew,
And think themselves the Lord knows who.

If he might offer any advice to those men of narrow and contracted minds, the free-traders, it would be that they should make a stand, separate themselves from that party which had proved itself an incubus on the country, and take the position which their talents would command. The noble lord would be left to declaim to empty benches, while they were carried into power on the shoulders of the people."

Mr. Osborne, besides acting in concert with the Free-Traders and political and financial reformers, has also taken up, on his own account, the vexed question of the Temporalities of the Irish Church, which for so many years was made the subject of an annual motion by the late Secretary to the Admiralty, Mr. Ward, then the independent member for Sheffield. He has on the paper at present a notice of motion for a Committee of the whole House on the question: whether his efforts to obtain a different settlement of the matter from that now existing will be more successful than those of his predecessor, it would be useless to speculate. The subject is a good one for a "Tribune of the People," but the difficulties to be encountered are gigantic.

A COAL-MINE ON FIRE.

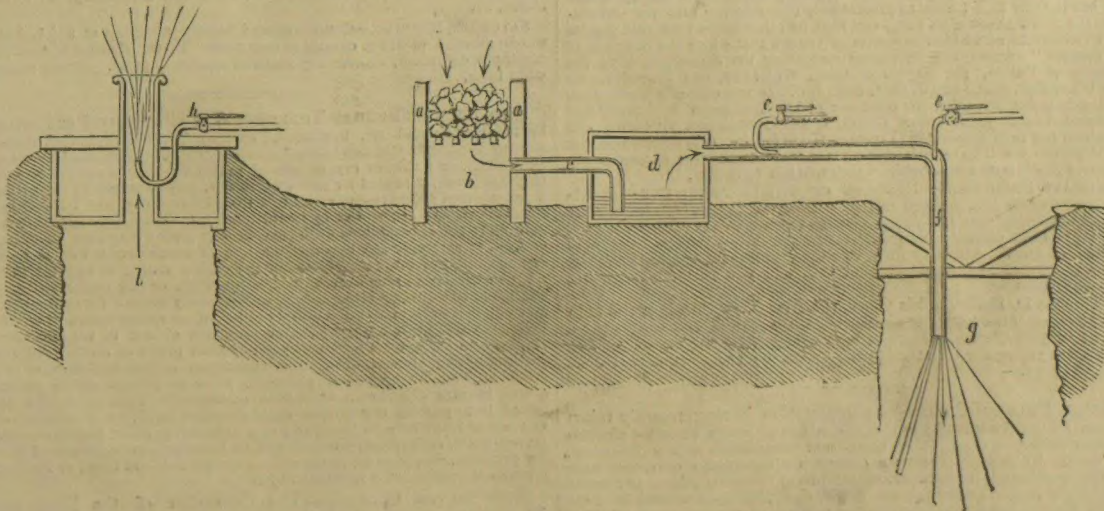
About five weeks since Mr. John Darlington, of the Astley and Tyldesley Collieries, near Manchester, addressed to the *Times* journal a letter, detailing the successful result of an experiment made to put out a coal-mine on fire. The importance and interest of the result has induced us to illustrate its stages with the accompanying Engravings, which represent instantly to the eye the most prominent features of the letter.

Mr. Darlington states that on Monday morning, April 30, one of his coal-mines at Astley was discovered to be on fire, and had spread to such an alarming extent as to prevent all access by the usual shafts. Mr. Darlington continues: "We immediately put out all the fires about the works, and requested the cottagers in the neighbourhood to do the same, for fear of an explosion. The plan of procedure in such cases (which happen more frequently than those un-

acquainted with collieries suppose) is, first, to stop down all openings into the mine, so as to prevent any access of the atmosphere. If, after some time, the fire is found not extinguished, the only alternative is to fill the mine with water from some source in the neighbourhood. In the absence of a sufficient reservoir of water, the pumps are stopped, and the water allowed to accumulate from the natural drainings, generally an unsatisfactory and slow process. In the former plan, notwithstanding every precaution is taken in sealing the shafts, it is found by experience that air in small quantities will be drawn through the stoppings and fissures of the earth, sufficient to keep up a slow state of combustion for a very long period. We have proof of this in many cases occurring in this neighbourhood. In the extensive collieries worked by Lord Bradford, at Bolton, the mine has been on fire nearly two years. When the fire happened, it was sealed up for some months; but on opening it, the fire was still found burning. The pits were again immediately sealed up, and left to remain for twice the former period. On opening the mine at this time, the fire burst out as before. It was again closed, and so remains to this day. At the collieries of the Earl of Ellesmere, at Worsley, one of the mines took fire about the same time; it was treated in the same way; it is still burning; and, at this moment, his Lordship is about to turn in the Bridgewater Canal. In the Patricroft Colliery, the deepest mine in this county, a fire broke out in the upper part of the workings, which baffled every attempt to extinguish it, and it is now stopped up and abandoned. At Mr. Blundell's colliery, at Blackrod, in this district, the pits were opened after being closed some time, on account of fire, when a fearful explosion took place, and did considerable mischief to the workings. The fire burned with greater intensity than ever; the flames rose out of the mines and set fire to the head-gear, and burned so fiercely within the pit that it actually melted the iron tram-wheels. In this case the river Douglas was eventually turned into the workings."

In the above case, Mr. Darlington instantly sealed up the mine; yet fire-damp issued from every crevice about the stoppings, and through orifices in the earth, in such quantities that the safety-lamps took fire at a considerable distance. "In this state of things (continues Mr. Darlington) I wrote to Mr. Golds-worthy Gurney, whose application of high-pressure steam to the ventilation of coal-mines is exciting so much interest, stating the case, and asking if he thought he could point out any plan by high-pressure steam exhaustion, or otherwise, likely to be of service. Mr. Gurney immediately came down; and, after well investigating the conditions, in consultation with us, proposed to fill the mine with carbonic acid, azote, or some other extinguishing and incombustible gas. This, at first, appeared to us impracticable, and the immense quantities required to fill the galleries and lateral workings, together above three miles in length, too expensive, if it were possible to obtain it, to warrant the proposition. He, however, soon set us right. He said azote, or nitrogen, might be obtained from the winds of heaven; and carbonic acid from the coals lying waste about the pit, assisted by a little charcoal and lime; air would be deprived of its oxygen by being passed through burning charcoal, coke, and small coal, and the azote set free. In short, the product of this combustion would be the choke, or black damp, known in mines.

"We immediately built a furnace of brickwork four feet square, at a safe distance from the downcast shaft. To the ashpit, in every other respect made tight, an iron cylinder 13 inches in diameter was connected, and made to terminate at an elbow under water in a close tank partly filled. With the upper part of this tank, above water, another pipe was connected and carried through the stopping of the downcast pit. A powerful steam jet was made to work between the furnace and the tank, which drew the air down through the fire, and forced it through the water. A second jet was placed in the cylinder at the top of the downcast shaft, and made to draw the choke-damp from the tank, and force it into the pit. At the other or upcast shaft we placed a jet in a cylinder connected through the stopping, and made to exhaust from the shaft beneath, so as to assist the compressing jets, and draw the choke-damp through the galleries between them. The apparatus thus fitted, as soon as the fire had burnt up, was set in action. In order to test the effect of the choke-damp, we placed some burning tow, moistened with spirits of turpentine, into it. The flame was as instantly extinguished as if placed in water. It was thus tested in the cylinder, as it passed from the ash-pit, before coming to the jet; also in the tank and second cylinder, with similar results. This was satisfactory evidence of the per-



SECTION OF THE APPARATUS FOR EXTINGUISHING A COAL-MINE ON FIRE.

- a. Open brickwork furnace, containing coke, charcoal, and small coal, the burning of which formed choke-damp.
- b. Ash-pit of furnace, made air-tight below the fire-bars.
- c. Sheet-iron cylinder, for conveying the burnt air or choke-damp from the ash-pit to the tank.
- d. Tank, with water at the bottom, through which the choke-damp was drawn by the steam jets.
- e. Steam jets.
- f. Continuation of the cylinder, passing through the stopping of the downcast shaft, and conveying the choke-damp into the mine.
- g. Downcast shaft.
- h. Another steam jet, made to exhaust from the upcast shaft, and assist in drawing the choke-damp through the galleries and over the fire.
- i. Upcast shaft.



THE STORM AT KENTISH-TOWN, ON TUESDAY.

VIOLENT THUNDER-STORM ON TUESDAY.

On Tuesday afternoon the metropolis and suburbs were visited by a terrific storm, which was very severely felt in Kentish-Town, the locality of the accompanying illustration. Here the lightning struck a remarkably fine old elm, which had long sheltered the tavern known as "the Assembly Rooms." Some of the larger limbs of the tree were struck to the ground, and nearly fell upon a man who was passing.

The meteorological report of Tuesday is briefly as follows:—The temperature was exceedingly oppressive, the thermometer rising to above 80 degrees in the shade. The sun during the former part of the day shone forth brilliantly, and the sky was clear. About 2 P.M., however, a slight breeze sprang up, and shortly after heavy lead-coloured clouds came from the south-west, and the parts of London over which they passed were visited by a mingled shower of hail and rain of a very violent character. The hailstones, or rather cubes of ice, were occasionally as large as walnuts.

Much damage was done by the violence of the storm. Baron Rothschild, of

Gunnerbury House, Acton, had 3940 squares of glass broken by the hailstones. Two market-gardeners, living at Starch Green, had more than 1000 panes broken. Mr. Day, of Hammersmith, had many smashed; and a great number of private dwellings around Turnham Green, Acton, &c., had the windows broken. Some of the hailstones were nearly two inches long, and of an uneven oblong shape.

THAMES REGATTA.—The days originally fixed by the committee of management were the 26th and 27th of June; but, in consequence of the want of funds, the 10th and 11th July were afterwards substituted. This arrangement, however, being very inconvenient to the members of the Oxford University Boat Club, who were anxious to row at this regatta, that at Henley being held during the Oxford Term, the committee have determined that the days originally fixed shall be adhered to, and in doing so they have trusted to the liberality of the public to place the necessary funds at their disposal.

OPENING OF VAUXHALL GARDENS.

On Monday night, this resort, of olden celebrity—which rumour has so often disparaged, and even built upon—was opened for the season, with the unusual auspices of fine weather. The "Royal property" has passed to a new management, who have shown great taste in various improvements throughout the grounds. Indeed, so numerous are the changes, that Vauxhall appears in a sort of rejuvenescence, or *renaissance*; its charms reminding one of Walpole's huckaback beauties, that never wear out. Thus, we have the extension of the Italian Walk, with its sculptures—a beautiful addition, of which we said something last week. The "60,000 additional lamps" is no longer speaking by the bill: the fireworks are unusually brilliant; in short, the fairy place is fresh and sparkling with novelty at every turn.

The entertainments on Monday commenced with a vocal and instrumental concert, conducted by Mr. A. Lee: the National Anthem followed the opening portion, and was loudly applauded. The singing of Lindpaintner's "Standard-bearer" by Mr. G. A. Irving, a youthful vocalist, was very favourably received; and Mr. Ross's comic songs were much enjoyed: for Vauxhall must have its drolleries as well as its elegance.

At the termination of the first part of the concert, the equestrian performances commenced in the Rotunda Theatre, where young Hernandez electrified the spectators with his somersaults, flying leaps, and elegant evolutions. M. Auriol, the "Prince of Clowns," also went through certain "impossible" performances; one of which—the Bottle Feat—we have illustrated. First, our Parisian *drôle* places about a dozen wine-bottles upon a table in the centre of the arena, and then commences a march upon the said bottles, balancing himself, and walking easily—a result rarely secured by converse with the "bottle." Auriol, then, with the same unsure footing, goes through the exercise of the *fusee*, and concludes by firing off the piece, as shown in the Engraving.

The entertainments wound up with fireworks, which were excellent. There are too many changes in the Gardens for us to chronicle. The sculpture has a very light and cool effect; the pictures—as Moutan by Moonlight—are exhibitions in little; the music is spirited and abundant; and the thousands of lamps are almost thrown into shade by the electric light, which sheds its supernatural halo round the whole place, and even shoals its rays across the river. The refection business has, also, been much improved; though we dare say the ham is still cut by the acre, and the punch maintains its pristine standard.

We are happy to add that the Gardens were crowded throughout the evening; and in the principal walks promenaded a large proportion of elegantly dressed company.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"R. D. V."—You allude, we presume, to an end-game in the last number of "La Régence," between MM. Kieseritzky and Schweg. The Pieces stand thus:—White: King at his Kt 5th; R at K Kt 4th; Kt at K B 6th; P at K Kt 6th. Black: King at his 2d; Q at K Kt 2d; Ps at Q Kt 2d and Q R 2d. In this position White (M. K.) had to play, and won the game.

"President."—Club.—Immediate application should be made for the back volumes of the Chess Player's Chronicle to Hastings, the original publisher, in Carey-street, as many are nearly out of print.

X. Y. Z.—1. Mr. Kling's collection of Chess Problems is published by Hurst, of King William-street, Strand. 2. The never-to-be-forgotten combat between La Bourdonnais and McDonnell took place in 1834.

"E. H. G."—It shall be re-examined.

"C. J. B."—Much too obvious.

"A. A."—A moment's reflection would have shown your error, which originates in forgetfulness that your third move exposes the White King to check from the adverse Bishop.

"F. G. R."—They are not forgotten.

"M."—Edinburgh.—See the diagram of the position of the game between London and Amsterdam in our paper of May the 5th.

"Tyro."—Our proposed solution in three moves holds good. There is no Pawn on the Q's Rook's side to capture the Rook.

"W. G."—We purposely altered the conditions of Enigma No. 448, and you will find we were right in doing so, as mate can be effected in four moves.

"P."—Brighton.—The second selection shall receive due attention. See notice to "X. Y. Z."

"Dudu."—It is under consideration.

Solutions by "E. W. B.," "F. R. S.," "G. T.," "R. A.," "F. N. V.," "S. U.," Dereon, are correct. Those by "C. C.," "Phiz," "M. E. R.," "A. A.," are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 279.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R takes Kt (ch)	K to Q B 4th (best)	4. Kt to Q 7th (ch)	R takes Kt (best)
2. R to Q B 3rd (ch)	P takes R	5. Kt to Q B 7th	Anything
3. P to Q 4th (ch)	P takes P (in passing)	6. Q or Kt mates	

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 280.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q R 6th	K R to his 5th (best)	(dis ch)	K to B 4th
2. Kt to Q Kt 5th (ch)	K to B 4th	4. Kt takes P (ch)	K to B 3rd
3. R to Q Kt 5th		5. B to Q Kt 5th—Mate.	

MATCH BY CORRESPONDENCE

BETWEEN THE LONDON AND AMSTERDAM CHESS CLUBS.

WHITE (Amsterdam). BLACK (London).

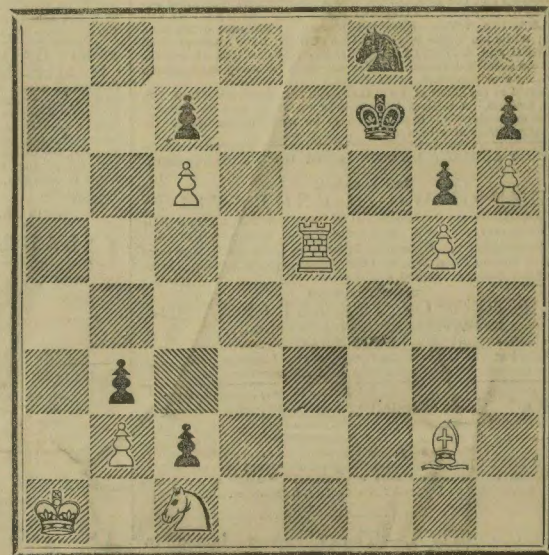
34. P takes P P takes P

Amsterdam to play.

PROBLEM No. 281.

By OMICRON.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in seven moves.

CHESS TOURNAMENT AT PARIS.

A contest of some interest to the amateurs of Chess has lately come off in the French metropolis, between eight frequenters of the celebrated Café de la Régence, and eight players of the Cercle des Echechs. The combatants selected for the occasion were:—

CAFE.	CERCLE.	CAFE.	CERCLE.
1. M. Saborio opposed to M. Lemaitre		5. M. Preti opposed to M. Devinc	
2. — Christoph — Guibert		6. — Garcin — Crampel	
3. — Warnet — Marguerite		7. — Des Guis — Pujol	
4. — Vaucoret — Laroche		8. — Seguin — Delannoy	

We are precluded, by the limits of our allotted space, from detailing the particulars of the struggle. It must suffice to say that the well-practised *habitués* of the Café had the advantage, six out of their eight competitors—viz. MM. Seguin, Warnet, Saborio, Christoph, Preti, and Des Guis—being proclaimed victorious, and entitled to the prizes.

The two following are among the best of the games with which we have been favoured, up to this time; in a few days, when the remainder reaches us, we trust to select some of greater interest, and a higher order of play:—

ALLGAIER GAMBIT.

(Played between M. Saborio and M. le Dr. Laroche.)

WHITE (M. S.)	BLACK (M. le Dr. L.)	WHITE (M. S.)	BLACK (M. le Dr. L.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	13. P to Q R 3d (b)	P to Q Kt 4th
2. P to K B 4th	P takes P	14. K B to Q R 2d	Q to K 2d
3. K Kt to B 3d	P to K Kt 5th	15. Q to her 3d	K Kt to B 3d
4. P to K R 4th	P to K Kt 5th	16. K to B 2d	Castles (c)
5. Kt to K 5th	P to K R 4th	17. K Kt to his 6th	Q to her 2d
6. K B to Q B 4th	K Kt to R 3d	18. Kt takes R	K takes Kt
7. P to Q 4th	P to Q 3d	19. Q R to K sq	P to Q Kt 5th
8. K Kt to Q 3d	P to K B 6th	20. P takes P (d)	Q Kt takes Q Kt P
9. P to K Kt 3d	Q Kt to B 3d	21. Q to her B 4th (e)	Q Kt takes Q B P
10. K Kt to K B 4th	K Kt to his sq	22. Q Kt to Q 5th (f)	Kt takes K P (ch)
11. Q Kt to B 3d	K B to K Kt 2d	23. K to B sq	Kt takes B (ch)
12. Q B to K 3d	P to Q R 3d (a)	24. R takes R	Kt to Q 7th (ch)

(a) This is feeble play. Black should rather have brought a leading piece into action.
(b) K to B 2d appears a preferable move.
(c) A serious oversight indeed. He ought to have played out his Q B, and then have Castled on the Q's side.
(d) Subjecting himself to attack without any necessity whatever for doing so. Why not have played the Kt to Q 5th?
(e) Q to her 2d would obviously have cost White a piece; and if Q to her sq Black must always have gained a Pawn.
(f) This loses him the game!

CENTRE GAMBIT.

(Played between M. Warnet and M. le Dr. Laroche.)

WHITE (M. W.)	BLACK (M. le Dr. L.)	WHITE (M. W.)	BLACK (M. le Dr. L.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	8. K B to Q Kt 3d	K Kt to K 2d (a)
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	9. K Kt to Kt 5th	Castles (b)
3. K Kt to B 3d	K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	10. Q to K R 5th	P to K Kt 3d
4. P to Q B 3d	P takes P	11. Kt takes K B P	Q to her B 2d
5. P takes P	K B to Q B 4th	12. Kt takes K R P	K to B 2d
6. K B to Q B 4th	P to Q B 3d	13. Kt to K Kt 8th—checkmate.	
7. Castles	P to Q Kt 4th		

(a) Badly played. From this point White obtains an overpowering attack.
(b) Making bad worse. In similar situations the best resource is throwing forward the Pawn to Q 4th.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 452.—By an Oxford Undergraduate—G. S. J.

White: K at his Kt 6th, Q at her 8th, R at K Kt sq, Bs at K Kt sq and Q Kt 7th, Kt at K 3d, Ps at Q B 2d and Q R 6th.
Black: K at Q B 4th, Q at K B 5th, Rs at Q B 5th and Q Kt 3d, B at K Kt 7th, Kts at K R 6th and K 3d; Ps at Q B 6th, Q Kt 4th, and Q R 6th.
White, playing first, mates in five moves.

No. 453.—By E. H. G.

White: K at Q B 3d, B at K B 3d, Kt at K 3d, and P at Q 2d.
Black: K at Q B 4th.
White to play, and mate in four moves.

LONDON: Printed and Published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, of 198, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1849.



M. AURIOL'S BOTTLE FEAT, AT VAUXHALL GARDENS.